PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

TRAVANCORE SRI MULAM ASSEMBLY.

SECOND ASSEMBLY.

ELEVENTH SESSION.

Friday, the 31st July 1942|15th Karkatakam 1117.

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

Vol. XX—No. 12.

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Friday, the 31st July 1942/15th Karkatakom 1117.

The Assembly met again at 11 A. M. with the President Sachivottama Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar in the Chair.

NEW MEMBERS.

The following members took the oath and signed the Rolls :—

1. Rajyasevapravina Khan Bahadur G. S. Abdul Karim Sahib Suhrawardy (*Inspector-General of Police*).
2. Mr. K. Kunjan Pillai (*Secretary to Government*) ;
3. Mr. P. G. Narayanan Unnithan (*Excise Commissioner*) : and
4. Mr. S. N. Ure (*Public Service Commissioner*).

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Relief Measures.

426. *MR. CODIVEETIL C. RAMANKUNJU (*Nominated*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether there is distress and starvation prevalent among the fisherfolk along the sea coast of Karthikapalli, Karunagapalli and Ambalapuzha ; and

(*b*) what steps they have taken to relieve the distress ?

MR. I. C. CHACKO (*Ag. Chief Engineer*) : (*a*) Government are aware of a certain amount of hardship felt by the fisherfolk living along the sea coast of Karunagapalli, Karthigapalli and Ambalapuzha.

(*b*) Relief works undertaken by the P. W. D. are meant to afford relief to these people also.

MR. CODIVEETIL C. RAMANKUNJU : ദാരിദ്ര്യവും പട്ടിണിയും നിമിത്തം അവിടെ ഇപ്പോൾ സന്നിപാതജ്വരം, വയറുകടി മുതലായ സുഖക്കേടുകൾ ഉണ്ടാകുന്നുണ്ട്. അതിനു വല്ല നിവാരണവും ചെയ്യുവാൻ ഗവണ്മെന്റിനു ദയവുണ്ടാകുമോ?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: ഗവണ്മെൻറ് അതിനെക്കുറിച്ച് ആലോചിക്കുന്നതാണ്.

MR. P. S. MUHAMED: അമ്പലപ്പുഴ താലൂക്കിൽ ഏതെങ്കിലും വേല തീർന്നിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: മുമ്പ് ചെയ്തുകൊണ്ടിരുന്നതും തീരാത്തതുമായ വേലകൾ തീർത്തിട്ടുണ്ട്.

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP: May I know whether the answer means that the Government are not aware of the hardships felt by the fisher-folk of Shertala?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: Yes, they are aware.

MR. KODIVEETIL C. RAMAN KUNJU: പി. ഡബ്ലിയു. ഡി. ജോലിക്ക ഫിഷർഫോക്കിന് പരിചയമില്ലാത്തതുകൊണ്ടു ജോലി കിട്ടുന്നില്ല എന്ന വിവരം മെമ്പർക്കറിയാമോ?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: പി. ഡബ്ലിയു. ഡി. ജോലി സാധാരണ കൂലിക്കാരുടെ ജോലിയാണു; അതു ജോലിയില്ലാത്ത ആർക്കും ചെയ്യാവുന്നതുമാണ്.

MR. KODIVEETIL C. RAMAN KUNJU: കാർത്തികപ്പള്ളിത്താലൂക്കിലും കരുനാഗപ്പള്ളിത്താലൂക്കിലും ഈ ആണ്ടിൽ എത്ര രൂപയ്ക്കുള്ള വേലകൾ ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നു പറയാമൊ?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: ൧൧൧൬-ൽ ൨൦൦൦൦ രൂപയുടേയും ൧൧൧൭-ൽ ൧൫൦൦൦ രൂപയുടേയും വേലകൾ തീർന്നിട്ടുണ്ട്. അതിനും പുറമെ സാധാരണ ജോലിക്കായി ഏതാനും രൂപാക്രൂടി നീക്കിവച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്.

MR. THARIATHU KUNJITHOMMEN: ഈ വേലകൾക്ക ഫിഷർഫോക്കിൽനിന്നും വേലക്കാരെ എടുത്തിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

MR. I. C CHACKO: വേലക്കാരുടെ കണക്ക് എൻെറ കൈവശമില്ല: അവർ വന്നില്ലെങ്കിൽ അതു് അവരുടെ കുററമാണ്.

Mannankandam.

427. *MR. THARIATHU KUNJITHOMMEN (*Muvattupuzha cum Devicolam*): Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the acreage assigned in auction of dry and wet lands from Mannankandam in Kuttamangalam pakuthi in the Muvattupuzha taluk, the separate bid amounts for the dry and the wet lands, and also the total bid amount?

MR. K. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*):

	Acreage assigned in auction. Acres	Cents.	Bid amounts Rs.	Total. Rs.
Dry lands	1179	32	1,67,988	3,31,312
Wet lands	680	85	1,63,324	

Rubber Planting Right.

428. ***MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR** (*Karunagapalli cum Karthikapalli*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of acres for which rubber planting right is allowed for Travancore in 1939—40;

(*b*) the number of applications received by Government for the cession of the planting right;

(*c*) the number of persons to whom such right was ceded;

(*d*) the highest and lowest number of acres allotted to a single individual; and

(*e*) the total number of acres of plantations possessed by those to whom such allotments are made?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): (*a*) 4,862·30 acres (as per calculation based on 1938 acreage).

(*b*) 8185.

(*c*) Information regarding the number of persons is not available. The total number of permits issued was 1960. In some cases more than one permit has been issued to one individual.

(*d*) The maximum area allotted to a single individual is 50 acres and the minimum area is 1 cent.

(*e*) The plantations possessed by the individual to whom the highest allotment was made are 580 acres in extent.

The plantations possessed by the individual to whom the lowest allotment was made are 20 cents in extent.

Paddy cultivation in Travancore.

429. ***MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN** (*Kunnatnad cum Parur*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have taken any action for increasing the extent of paddy cultivation in Travancore and for increasing the output, and if so, the measures they have adopted?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR (*Director of Agriculture*): The Department of Agriculture has been popularising improved and scientific methods of cultivation, such as the use of improved ploughs, selected and high-yielding seeds, better manures, etc. A number of demonstrations of the above methods are also being conducted every year on the lands belonging to actual cultivators in order to induce them and their neighbours to adopt similar practices.

A sub-committee of the Board of Agriculture made some investigations about ways and means to increase the area under paddy, and to augment its production.

A Lift Irrigation Committee with a full time Special Officer to carry out their decision is tackling the problem of increasing the output of paddy in the taluks of Kunnatnad and Parur by converting single crop lands into double crop lands with the aid of electrical power for pumping water for irrigation from the Periyar. The experimental cultivations so far done in this connection have been successful.

[Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar]

A number of depots for the stocking and sale of manures to agriculturists have been opened, and a vigorous food production drive is being carried on.

Chengannur-Parumala Road.

430. ***MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI** (*Tiruvalla*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the Chengannur-Parumala road *via* Pandanad is under Government maintenance and if so, the annual rate of maintenance per mile;

(*b*) whether the portion of the road between the Government M. P. School, Vanmazhi and the Parumala ferry is now fit for vehicle communication and if not, the reason for the same; and

(*c*) how long this part of the road has been unfit for vehicle communication?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: (*a*) Yes. Rs. 120 per mile for the last 4 miles; Rs. 30 per mile for the remaining 2 miles.

(*b*) and (*c*) The portion except that from 3/8 to the end is fit for cart traffic. There are no culverts and the road is low and narrow with no surfacing in this latter portion.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know whether any portion of this amount of Rs. 120 was spent for that purpose during these years?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: Yes, Sir.

Thalayolapparampu Fish Market.

431. ***MR. K. R. NARAYANAN** (*Vaikom cum Kottayam*): With reference to the Thalayolapparampu Fish Market, will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the date on which the site was acquired;

(*b*) whether an estimate has been prepared for putting up a shed;

(*c*) if so, when; and

(*d*) the stage at which the proceedings thereon now stand?

MR. K. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) 5-2-1116.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) and (*d*) In view of the answer to part (*b*) these questions do not arise.

Cashewnut Factories.

432. ***MR. P. S. MUHAMED** (*Quilon cum Kottarakara*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether the wage rates in the several cashewnut factories in different places are different?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: Yes.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN: May I know the reason for this difference?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: The factories pay as they like to the coolies

Beedi and tobacco contractors.

433. *MR. A. K. KUMARAN VAIDYAN (*Kunnathnad* cum *Parur*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of beedi wholesale and tobacco wholesale contractors in Parur taluk; and

(*b*) the number of old licensees among them?

MR. P. G. NARAYANAN UNNITHAN:

(*a*) No. of beedi wholesale licenses		...	40
Do. Tobacco	Do.	...	28
(*b*) No. of beedi wholesale licenses old		...	20
Do. Tobacco	Do.	...	22

Cheriappilly—Koonammavoo Road.

434. *MR. A. K. KUMARAN VAIDYAN: Will the Government be pleased to state the amount recommended by the Public Works Department Advisory Board for the construction of the Cheriappilly-Koonam mavoo road in Parur taluk?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: Rs. 500 for effecting some improvements.

Market Junction at Tiruvalla.

435. *MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP (*Ambalapuzha* cum *Shertala*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have received any representation from the Municipal Chairman, Tiruvalla, for widening the market junction at Tiruvalla and for widening the road from the Post Office to half Pulokkezhur road in Tiruvalla; and

(*b*) if so, what action has been taken on it?

MR. K. KUNJAN PILLAI: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The proposal is under consideration.

Wages of Labourers.

436. *MR. P. S. MUHAMED: Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a list showing the rates of wages of the following classes of labourers for a day in different occupations in the taluk of Shertala:

(*a*) Agricultural workers;
(*b*) Garden workers;
(*c*) P. W. D workers; and
(*d*) Factory workers?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: (*a*) 10 chs.
(*b*) 10 chs.
(*c*) 10 chs.
(*d*) 10 1/2 chs.

Stagnation of Water.

437. *MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether the paddy fields in Thazhakudy lying between the North Puthanar and the Pazhayar are deteriorating?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: Government are not aware of such deterioration.

New Tanks.

438. ***MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR** : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether there are any irrigation tanks in the pakuthies of Colachel and Manavalakurichi to feed the converted paddy fields ;

(*b*) whether the Economic Development Board has proposed any tanks to be dug in Colachel, Cheramangalam, Minor and Major blocks and other blocks ; and

(*c*) if so, in which blocks ?

MR. I. C. CHACKO : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) In Killikutty Pillavila and Chevidanvila blocks.

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR : இது என்ன நிலைமையிலிருக்கிறது.

MR. I. C. CHACKO : Estimates for the two tanks have been prepared.

Registry or Kuthakapattom of tank beds.

439. ***MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR** : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether any tank or tank bed in the taluks of Thovala, Agastisvaram, Kalkulam or Vilavankod has been registered in favour of private individuals or given on Kuthakapattom during the years 1116 and 1117 ;

(*b*) whether any such Kuthakapattom lease or the period thereof was renewed, or extended during the said period ;

(*c*) if the answers to parts (a) and (b) are in the affirmative, the survey numbers and extent of such tanks ;

(*d*) whether the Revenue or P. W. D. Officers recommended such renewals or extensions ; and

(*e*) the reasons for such recommendation ?

MR. K. KUNJAN PILLAI : (*a*) and (*b*) No registries of tank or tank-beds were effected during the period referred to. There have been cases of leases and renewals of leases.

(*c*)

Taluk.	Pakuthi.	Survey No.	Extent leased A. C.	Extent of the tank. A.	Extent of the tank. C.
Thovala	1 Thirupathisaram	504/1	13·651	14	85
	2 Esanthimangalam	1282/87288	1·015	1	21
Agastisvaram	1 Theroor	1610/562	2·700	426	35
	2 Vadiveswaram	888	33·5	1	36
	3 Neendakara A	5473	27-36·5	27	36·5

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) The applications were found to be bonafide and the sites were not required for any immediate Government or public purposes.

MR., C. JEBAMONY NADAR: குரண்டிக்குளத்தைப் பதித்துக் கொடுக்க வேண்டுமென்று ஏதாவது அப்பேக்ஷை வந்ததுண்டா?

MR. K. KUNJAN PILLAI: അഗസ്തീശ്വരം താലൂക്കിൽ നീണ്ടകരയിൽ ഏ സർവെ ൧൪൫൯-ാം നമ്പരിൽ കുറണ്ടിക്കുളം ഇറിഗേഷൻ ആവശ്യത്തിനു യോഗ്യമല്ലെന്നു കണ്ടു പതിച്ചുകൊടുക്കുന്നതിനു വിരോധമില്ലെന്നു ഗവണ്മെൻറു നിശ്ചയിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. എന്നാൽ ശരിയായ തുകക്കു ലേലം പോകാത്തതുകൊണ്ടു ലേലം മാററിവച്ചിരിക്കുകയാണ്.

Labour trouble in the A. D. Cotton Mills, Ltd.

440. ***MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR:** Will the Government be pleased to state,

(*a*) whether there was any labour trouble in the A. D. Cotton Mills, Ltd., Quilon in Chingom 1117;

(*b*) how many labourers were involved in the trouble; and

(*c*) what action did the Labour Commissioner or any of his subordinates take to end the trouble?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) 805.

(*c*) There was no need for the Labour Commissioner to interfere in the matter as the questions in dispute were satisfactorily settled as the result of negotiations carried on between the President of the Quilon Factory Workers' Union and the management of the Mills.

MR. K. G. GOVINDAN: May I know the nature of the settlement?

PRESIDENT: That does not arise.

MR. K. G. GOVINDAN: In the answer it is stated that there was no need for the Labour Commissioner to interfere in the labour trouble.

PRESIDENT: That was settled without the intervention of the Government.

MR. K. G. GOVINDAN: I want to know whether the Department or the Government had to do anything with the settlement?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: The employers and employees came to an agreement among themselves.

MR. K. G. GOVINDAN: May I know whether there were any strikes in the factory in 1115 and 1116?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: Yes, Sir.

MR. K. G. GOVINDAN: May I know whether any settlement was brought about between the authorities of the mills on the one hand and the labourers on the other in those years?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: There were occasions in which agreement was arrived at between the employers and the labourers.

Duty levied on Rubber.

441. *MR. K. G. GOVINDAN (*Pattanamtitta*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether duty is levied on rubber exported from Travancore?

MR. P. G. NARAYANAN UNNITHAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Yes.

Uncultivated Lands.

442. *MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether any registered lands in the hills of Kalkulam and Vilavankod taluks remain uncultivated during the current year;

(*b*) the total area of such lands; and

(*c*) the reasons for non-cultivation?

MR. K KUNJAN PILLAI: (*a*) and (*b*) Kalkulam taluk—Nil. Vilavankod taluk—383 acres and 16 cents.

(*c*) The reasons are (1) the rocky and unfertile nature of the lands;

(2) want of capital for investment; and

(3) setting apart portions of land for growing green manure.

Land assigned for Cardamom cultivation.

443. *MR. TARIATHU KUNJITHOMMEN: Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the total extent of land assigned for cardamom cultivation in the Devicolam and the Peermade taluks, how much of it was registered in favour of Travancoreans and how much to foreigners?

MR. K. KUNJAN PILLAI; The statement called for is given below.

1. Total extent of land assigned for cardamom cultivation in the Devicolam and Peermade taluks.	About 57791 acres.
2. The area registered in favour of Travancoreans.	About 10153 acres.
3. The area registered in favour of foreigners.	About 47638 acres.

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP: What is the maximum acreage registered in the name of a single Travancorean?

MR. K. KUNJAN PILLAI: I claim notice.

Disafforestation.

444. *MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have disafforested any area from the forest for agricultural operation on a lease basis in 1117; and

(*b*) if so, the acreage and the places they have disafforested and the term of lease for allotment?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: (*a*) No; but leases for taungya cultivation of certain areas in reserved forests for a period of 3 years have been given.

(*b*) A statement of the places given on lease is furnished below:—

Quilon Division.

1. 110 acres in Ezhukone Grazing Block No. 4 for raising tapioca cum cashewnut—lease current for 3 years.
2. 19·46 acres in Irattur reserve on a three years' taungya lease for the same purpose.

Southern Division.

1. 188 acres in the Thonnakkal reserve on three years' lease for taungya.
2. 10 acres in Arianad reserve for taungya lease for three years.
3. 25 acres in Valiamala reserve for Do.
4. 30 acres in Thungampara reserve Do.
5. $50\frac{1}{2}$ acres in Pachamala reserve Do.
6. 25 acres in Thodalicad reserve Do.

MR. CODIVEETIL C. RAMAN KUNJU: ൧൮൮ ഏക്കർസ്ഥലം ൩ വർഷത്തെ പാട്ടത്തിന്ന കൊടുത്തിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നു ഉത്തരത്തിൽ കാണുന്നു. സിസ്റ്റം അനുസരിച്ചാണോ കൊടുത്തിട്ടുള്ളതു്?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: അതെ.

Swampy areas in the Reserved Forests.

445. ***MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Director of Agriculture has stated on behalf of Government in the last session of the Sri Mulam Assembly that the suitable swampy areas in the reserved forests will be leased out to the public for paddy or other food crop cultivation under conditions to be prescribed by Government;

(b) the number of applications, if any, received by Government for the purpose; and

(c) the action taken on them?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: (a) Yes.

(b) 18.

(c) Pursuant to one of the applications an area of 8·93 acres of land in the Kottapara Reserve has been ordered to be leased out to the applicant for paddy cultivation. The other applications are being investigated with reference to their effect on forest conservancy. Swampy areas in two localities have been reported to be suitable for being leased out without detriment to forest conservancy. The leasing of these areas is under consideration.

MR. K. KUNJAN PILLAI: I claim notice.

MR. K. DOMINIC JOSEPH: May I know the names of the localities referred to in Part (c) of the answer?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: One is Kottapara reserve. The other is Nagarampara reserve in which investigation has been completed. Other areas are being looked into.

MR. K. G. GOVINDAN: May I know the area of the Nagarampara reserve ?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: Over 100 acres.

Pokkuvaravu by succession.

446. ***MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR**: Will the Government be pleased to place on the table a list showing the following particulars:

(*a*) the number of thandaper holders in each of the pakuthies of Kalkulam and Vilavankod who died during the year 1116 ;

(*b*) the number of pokkuvaravu cases registered on account of such deaths ; and

(*c*) whether during the jamabandi inspection in that year, they have found out in any Pakuthy Office, failure or default to comply with the provisions of the Pokkuvaravu rules *re* change of names by succession ?

MR. K. KUNJAN PILLAI: (*a*) Kalkulam 68.
Vilavankod 55.

(*b*) 68 in Kalkulam and 46 in Vilavankod.

(*c*) Yes.

Dhobies or Pandi-Vannans and Public Service.

447. ***MR. VARKALA K. MADHAVAN** (*Chirayinkil* cum *Nedumangad*): With reference to the Notification of the Public Service Commissioner published on page 214 of the Government Gazette dated the 20th Edavom 1117 inviting applications from certain backward communities for clerks' posts in the Registration Department, will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) why Dhobies or Pandi-Vannans were excluded from the list ; and

(*b*) whether they have received any representation from members of the said community praying that they may also be included in the list of communities mentioned in the Notification ?

MR. S. N. URE (*Public Service Commissioner*): (*a*) Because there are candidates previously selected from the communal group "Other Hindu" in which the Dhobies or Pandi-Vannans are included.

(*b*) Not from any Association or Public body. No separate register for such representations from individual members of the community is being maintained.

MR. KAVIYOOR K. K. KOCHUKUNJU: ധോബികളെ, മററു ഹിന്ദുക്കളുടെ കൂട്ടത്തിൽ ക്ഷണിക്കുവാൻ സാധിക്കുകയില്ലെന്നു പറയുന്നു. മററു ഹിന്ദുക്കളിൽ ഉള്ള മററു വകുപ്പുകാരെ എല്ലാപേരെയും ക്ഷണിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ ?

MR. S. N. URE: No, Sir. In this particular case there were already "9 Other Hindus" in the register of available candidates. So it was unnecessary to invite application for the 'Other Hindu' group.

MR. KAVIYOOR K. K. KOCHUKUNJU: ഡോബികളുടെ ഇടയിൽ കാണുന്ന സബ്ബ്ഡിവിഷൻ എല്ലാംകൂടി ഒരു ഗ്രൂപ്പാക്കിവച്ചാൽ ഈ വിഷമത്തിനു ശമനം ഉണ്ടാകുകയില്ലേ?

PRESIDENT: That is a matter of opinion.

Varnavas in Trivandrum City.

448. ❋**MR. KAVIYOOR K. K. KOCHUKUNJU** (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether a deputation of the representatives of Varnavas in Trivandrum City who are washermen by profession waited on and submitted to Government a memorial on 13-10-1117 praying for the removal of certain difficulties they experience in carrying on their profession?

MR. K. KUNJAN PILLAI: Yes.

MR. KAVIYOOR K. K. KOCHUKUNJU: ഇതിനെപ്പററി എന്തെങ്കിലും നടപടികൾ എടുത്തിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

MR. K. KUNJAN PILLAI: അതു ഗവണ്മെൻറിൻെറ നടപടിയിൽ ഇരിക്കുകയാണ്.

Municipalities.

449. ❋**MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether it was resolved at a conference of Municipal presidents that under the District Municipalities Act each Municipality should as far as possible be divided into as many wards as there are elected members;

(*b*) whether any and, if so, which of the Municipalities recommended a redistribution of wards so that more than one member may be returned from a ward;

(*c*) whether the Government have accepted any such recommendation: and

(*d*) if so, the reasons therefor in each case?

MR. K. KUNJAN PILLAI: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Padmanabhapuram, Kuzhithura, Kayankulam, Alleppey and Alwaye.

(*c*) & (*d*) Yes. Government accepted the recommendation of the Kuzhithura Municipal Council as it was reported by that Council that it was not possible to divide the town into as many wards as there would be members.

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR: மீதி முனிஸிபாலிடிகளைப் பற்றி என்ன வாயிற்று என்று தயவுசெய்து சொல்லலாமா?

MR. K. KUNJAN PILLAI: The matter is under the consideration of the Government.

Village Unions.

450. *MR. G. VELU PILLAI (*Karunagapalli cum Karthikapalli*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the total number of Village Unions constituted in the State under the Travancore Village Unions Act of 1115; and

(*b*) the names of the taluks in which they are not constituted?

MR. K. KUNJAN PILLAI: (*a*) 39.

(*b*) Kottarakara, Devicolam and Peermade.

MR. G. VELU PILLAI: May I know why Village Unions have not been constituted in those three taluks?

MR. K. KUNJAN PILLAI: Because under the Act a certain amount of money has to be contributed by the villagers. It was reported that the villagers are unwilling to contribute any amount.

MR. G. VELU PILLAI: May I know the names of those villages?

MR. K. KUNJAN PILLAI: The villages, as reported by the Division Peishkar are Kulakkada, Vettikavala and Chadayamangalam.

Headmasters of Malayalam and Tamil Primary Schools.

451. *MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the Headmasters of Malayalam and Tamil Primary Schools are equally conversant with both the languages; and

(*b*) whether any of them has been reported to have encouraged the study of one language as against the other?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: (*a*) All the Headmasters of Malayalam and Tamil Primary Schools are not equally conversant with both the languages, but some of them are.

(*b*) No.

Burial Ground for Arayas of Alleppey.

452. *MR. CODIVEETIL C. RAMANKUNJU: Will the Government be pleased to state whether the area of land granted for a burial ground for Arayas, of Alleppey has been demarcated and enclosed?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): No.

MR. CODIVEETTIL C. RAMANKUNJU: അസംബ്ളി ആരംഭിച്ചതിനുശേഷം ആ സ്ഥലം സർവെ ചെയ്തതായി അറിയുന്നു. സർവെ കഴിഞ്ഞാൽ ഉടനെ ഉപയോഗത്തിനായി വിട്ടുകൊടുക്കുമോ?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: തീർച്ചയായും.

Typhoid Epidemic.

453 *MR. VARKALA K. MADHAVAN: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) the number of deaths from typhoid fever in Chirayinkil taluk in 1117 up to the end of Mithunam; and

(b) the measures they have adopted to check the spread of typhoid epidemic in the villages of Kadakavoor, Vakkom, Kaikara and Nedunganda in Chirayinkil taluk?

MR. K. KUNJAN PILLAI: (a) 31.

(b) Preventive measures such as inoculation of contacts, disinfection of infected houses and chlorination of wells and other water sources are being carried out. A Sanitary Inspector with headquarters at Kadakavoor has been detailed for this purpose. Up to the 29th Mithunam 1117, 1019 inoculations were done in Kadakavoor pakuthy; 325 wells were chlorinated and 194 houses were disinfected. Anti-typhoid propaganda by means of pamphlets and talks is also carried out.

MR. VARKALA K. MADHAVAN: May I know whether the disease is now under control?

MR. K. KUNJAN PILLAI: I claim notice.

Supply of oil for lighting purposes.

454. *MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN (*Quilon cum Kottarakara*): Will the Government be pleased to state the steps they have taken for ensuring regular supply of oil for lighting purposes for the people of the State under existing war conditions?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: The supply of kerosene oil is now limited to nearly half the quantity formerly available and consistent with this limited supply, arrangements have been made with the Oil Agencies for proper distribution of the oil for lighting purposes.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN: What are the other varieties of oil?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: Laurel oil, cocoanut oil, ground nut oil, etc.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN: May I know in what measure they will be avilable to the people?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: That is under the consideration of the Government.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: May I know who are the oil agencies?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: The Burmah Shell and the A. P. C.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN: ഇപ്പോഠം മണ്ണെണ്ണ വില്പനയെ നിയന്ത്രിക്കുന്നതിനായിഎടുത്തിട്ടുള്ള അറേഞ്ചുമെൻറുകഠംഎന്തെല്ലാമാണു്?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: ഇപ്പോഠം അവർ ഒരു പ്രൈസ് നിശ്ചയിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടു്. ആ പ്രൈസിനു മാത്രമെ ഏജൻറന്മാർ വിൽക്കാവൂ എന്നു ഏർപ്പാടു ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ടു്. ആ വിലക്കു അവർ ഹോഠംസെയിൽ മർച്ചൻസിനും റിട്ടയിൽ മർച്ചൻസിനും കൊടുക്കും. ഇതെല്ലാം പോലീസുകാരുടെ നിയന്ത്രണത്തിലാണു് നടത്തുന്നതു്. വിൽപ്പനയിൽക്കൂടി അവരുടെ നിയന്ത്രണം ഉണ്ടു്.

MR. P. S. MUHAMED: ഈ ഏർപ്പാടുകൊണ്ടു ഏജൻസികഠംതന്നെ വിലകൂട്ടി വിൽക്കുന്നു എന്നറിയാമോ? റിട്ടയിൽ വിൽപ്പനക്കു കൂടുതൽ മണ്ണെണ്ണ ചെലവാകുന്നു എന്നും പറഞ്ഞു കൂടിയവിലക്കു അതു വിൽക്കുന്നു എന്നു പരാതി ലഭിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI. അങ്ങിനെ പരാതികഠം വന്നിട്ടുണ്ടു്. എന്നാൽ അതിനെപ്പററി കമ്പനി ഇൻസ്പെക്ടറന്മാർ തന്നെ പരിശോധന നടത്തുന്നുണ്ടു്. അവർ അന്വേഷണം നടത്തുന്നു എന്നും അതിനെപ്പററി വേണ്ടതു ചെയ്യുന്നു എന്നും ഗവണ്മെൻറിനെ അറിയിച്ചിട്ടുമുണ്ടു്.

MR. P. S. MUHAMED: ഏജൻറന്മാർ റിട്ടയിൽവില്പനനടത്തുന്നുണ്ടോ?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: ഏതാനുംപേർ അങ്ങിനെ ചെയ്യുന്നുണ്ടു്. അങ്ങിനെ നടത്തുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു് റിട്ടയിൽ വില്പന നടത്തുന്നു എന്നു പറഞ്ഞു.

MR. P. S. MUHAMED; അങ്ങിനെ നടത്തുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു് റിട്ടയിൽ വില്പന നടത്തുന്നു എന്നു പറഞ്ഞു് അവക്കു മണ്ണെണ്ണ അധികം അറിയാതെ കൈവശപ്പെടുത്തുന്നതിനുള്ള സൌകര്യമില്ലെ?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: ഗവണ്മെൻറു ഇപ്പോഠം അതിനെ നിരുത്സാഹപ്പെടുത്തിവരുകയാണു്.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN: May I know whether any enquiry has been made about the quantity of laurel and other oil avilable?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: That is being investigated.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN: പെട്രോഠം ടാങ്കിൽതന്നെ മണ്ണെണ്ണ കൊടുക്കാനുള്ള ഏർപ്പാടു ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: ഇല്ല.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: May I know whether these oil agencies supply laurel oil?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: No, not the kerosene oil agencies.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Trivandrum Corporation and the Washerman Community.

18. **MR. KAVIYOOR K. K. KOCHUKUNJU**: Will the Government be pleased to state whether the Trivandrum Corporation has afforded any facilities to the washermen of the town to carry on their work?

MR. K. KUNJAN PILLAI: The Corporation authorities report that facilities for washing clothes are available to the dhobies in the City at the following places:

1. Near Puthencottah Bridge (Killiyar River).
2. Milady Kadavu.
3. Parachira Anai.
4. East of Karamanay River Bridge.
5. Below Ottatheru Bathing ghat in Karamanay River.
6. Charachira tank.
7. Near Killiyar at Jagathi.

It is also reported that on a representation from some of the washermen in the City the Corporation has taken up the question of constructing an approach road from Kochar road to Parachira dam.

Foreign liquor shops.

19. **MR. D. C. JOSEPH** (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state the number of foreign liquor shops in Nagercoil in 1111 and 1117 and their income to Government and the money value of the local sale?

MR. P. G. NARAYANAN UNNITHAN:

Number of foreign liquor shops.

	1111.	1117.
Wholesale	2	3
Retail	2	3
Special license	1	..
Special refreshment room license...		2

Gallonage fee of Rs. 675-9-8 has been realised so far in 1117 against nil collected under gallonage fee in 1111.

Amount realised towards license fee in 1111 was Rs. 1195-27-8 and the amount realised in 1117 towards license fee is Rs. 1,934-23-0.

Latin Christians in the Huzur Cutcherry.

20. **MR. D. FRANCIS** (*Kalkulam cum Vilavancode*): Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table:

(*a*) a statement showing the number of Latin Christians appointed with their names and pay in the Huzur Office during the years 1-1-1114 to 1-1-1117; and

(*b*) a statement showing the names and pay of Latin Christians promoted from the year 1-1-1114 to 1-1-1117?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: (*a*) One Mr. C. John Wilson was appointed as clerk on Rs. 25 per mensem in a short vacancy in the Secretariat;

(*b*) None in the Secretariat.

Latin Christians in the Excise Department.

21. **MR. D. FRANCIS:** Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table:

(*a*) a statement showing the names and pay of Latin Christians appointed in the Excise Department from 1-1-1114 to 1-1-1117; and

(*b*) a statement showing the names of persons promoted from among the Latin Christians from 1-1-1114 to 1-1-1117 and their pay?

MR. P. G. NARAYANAN UNNITHAN: *A statement is laid on the table.

Latin Christians in the Police Department.

22. **MR. D. FRANCIS:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of Latin Christians appointed in the Police Department with their names and pay from the year 1-1-1112 to 1-1-1117; and

(*b*) the names of Latin Christian Inspectors, Head Constables and Constables promoted, with their pay during the year 1-1-1112 to 1-1-1117?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: A statement containing the information is placed on the Secretary's table.

Latin Christians in the Land Revenue Department.

23. **MR. D. FRANCIS:** Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing:

(*a*) the names and pay of Latin Christian officers and clerks appointed during the years 1-1-1112 to 1-1-1117 on a pay of Rs. 50 and above; and

(*b*) the names and pay of Latin Christian Officers and clerks who were promoted from 1-1-1112 to 1-1-1117?

MR. K. KUNJAN PILLAI: (*a*) None.

(*b*) The statement called for is placed below.

Name.	Designation.	Grade from which promoted.	Grade to which promoted.	Designation.
		Rs.	Rs.	
1. Mr. S. Francis	Clerk	40-70	75-100	Clerk
2. Mr. M. Antony	Do.	25-40	40-70	Do.
3. Miss Rose Antony	Do.	20-25	25-40	Do.

* *Vide* Appendix I, page 1032.

Cultivation of poramboke lands.

24. **MR. C. RAMASWAMY NADAR** (*Thovala cum Agastisvaram*): Will the Government be pleasedto state the extent of land in respect of which poramboke cases have been taken and eviction effected in the taluks of Agastisvaram and Tovala ?

MR. K. KUNJAN PILLAI: The information could not be furnished as the period for which the information is required is not specified.

Pokkuvaravu cases.

25. **MR. C. RAMASWAMY NADAR**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of old Pokkuvaravu cases still undisposed of in each of the pakuthies of Agastisvaram and Tovala taluks; and

(*b*) the steps taken by Government with regard to the above cases ?

MR. K. KUNJAN PILLAI: (*a*) Nil.

(*b*) This question does not arise in view of the answer to part (*a*).

Amendment of the Debt Relief Act.

26. **MR. C. RAMASWAMY NADAR**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) how many petitions have been received so far requesting that the present Debt Relief Act may be so amended as to be made applicable to cases which are pending in courts relating to transactions entered into before 1112; and

(*b*) the action taken by the Government on such petitions; and

(*c*) the number of such cases and the total amount involved therein ?

MR. PUTHUPPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Legal Remembrancer to Government*): (*a*) None.

(*b*) This does not arise in view of the answer to part (*a*)

(*c*) The figures are being collected from the department concerned.

Naranikulam tank at Kulasekharapuram.

27. **MR. C. RAMASWAMY NADAR**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) how many more acres of paddy fields can be cultivated without the help of Pechipara water if the Naranikulam tank at Kulasekharapuram pakuthi in Agastisvaram taluk is improved; and

(*b*) what action they have taken in improving the Naranikulam tank ?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: (*a*) No more acres can be cultivated without water supply from Pechipara Reservoir.

(*b*) No action has been taken.

Murungavilai tank.

28. **MR. C. RAMASWAMY NADAR**: Will the Government be pleased to state the steps they have taken in response to the prayer made through petitions as well as resolutions in public meetings submitted through the local M. L. A., requesting that the Murungavilai tank at Neendakara B. Pakuthi be improved ?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: The necessary investigation has been conducted and the estimate prepared is under scrutiny.

Bridge at the 4th furlong of the 44th mile of the Nagercoil—Aramboly road.

29. **MR. C. RAMASWAMY NADAR**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of representations received by the Government for constructing a bridge at the 4th furlong of the 44th mile of the Nagercoil-Aramboly road to the Vennaikulam ridge; and

(*b*) the action taken thereon?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: (*a*) One.

(*b*) Detailed estimates have been called for.

Road connecting Manakkudy-Puthalam road with the Eathamozhi—Rajakkamangalam road.

30. **MR. C. RAMASWAMY NADAR**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have taken measures to connect the Manakkudi-Puthalam road with the Eathamozhi-Rajakkamangalam road; and

(*b*) if so, at what stage it is?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Investigation has been conducted and the estimate prepared is under scrutiny.

Excise Assistant Commissioners and Inspectors.

31. **MR. M. L. D'CRUZ** (*Neyyattinkara cum Trivandrum*): Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement, by caste, of the Excise Assistant Commissioners and Inspectors?

MR. P. G. NARAYANAN UNNITHAN: A *statement is laid on the table.

Assam Labour Force.

32. **MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the total number of labour recruited up till now for the Assam Labour Force;

(*b*) the pay, allowances and other conditions, if any, on which they are recruited; and

(*c*) the number already sent out of Travancore?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: (*a*) 5,600.

(*b*) Pay for Assam and Bengal Re. 1 per diem.

Allowance. Rations as laid down by Government of India according to field service scale.

Conditions. Service for not less than six months from date of arrival at destination. Thereafter if desired repatriation at the cost of Government of India.

(*c*) 1,600.

**Vide* Appendix II, page 1033.

Travancore Labour Forces in Orissa.

33. **MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the Press Note from the Orissa Government regarding the behaviour of the Travancore Labour Forces encamped there has come to the notice of this Government;

(*b*) what steps they have taken to ascertain the full facts regarding the incident; and

(*c*) what the facts are?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Mr. Justus Daniel who had taken an active part in mobilising these Labour Units was deputed for this purpose.

(*c*) The matter is *sub judice.*

Labour Controller.

34. **MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether a Labour Controller has been appointed by the Cochin State to look after the welfare of the Labour Forces recruited and sent out from that State; and

(*b*) what action this Government have taken in this direction?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: (*a*) This Government have no information that the Cochin Government have appointed any such officer.

(*b*) The matter is under correspondence and under consideration with the Government of India.

Appendix I.

Vide Answer to Question No. 21.

(*a*) Statement showing the names and pay of Latin Christians appointed in the Excise Department from 1-1-1114 to 1-1-1117.

S. No.	Name.		Pay.
1	Esthappan	...	Rs. 9
2	S. Pethiru	...	do.
3	Varghese Dominic	...	do.
4	V. Zacharia	...	do.
5	Selvam Valdaris	...	do.
6	K. J. Pathrose	...	do.
7	A. Thammanathan	...	do.
8	Gnanaprakasam	...	do.
9	T. J. Peter	...	do.
10	Lazar Peter	...	do.
11	V. L. Zacharia	...	do.
12	S. Raphel	...	do.
13	M. J. Paul	...	do.
14	M. V. Varkey	...	do.
15	P. Lucas	...	do.
16	T. Ambrose	...	do.
17	A. Fernandez	...	Rs. 18

(*b*) Statement showing the names of the persons promoted from among the Latin Christians from 1-1-1114 to 1-1-1117.

S. No.	Name.	Particulars of promotion.
1	P. J. Fernandez	From Rs. 35 to 50
2	J. Thomas	„ Rs. 9 to 10
3	Massilamony	„ 9 to 10
4	Joseph	„ 10 to 11

Appendix II.

Vide Answer to Question No. 31.

Statement, by Caste, of Assistant Excise Commissioners and Excise Inspectors.

	Assistant Excise Commissioners.	Excise Inspectors.
A. HINDU.		
1. Brahmin ...	2	4
2. Nayar ...	6	33
3. Other specified Hindu ...	...	6
4. Nadar ...	...	1
5. Ezhava ...	2	8
B. MUSLIM ...	...	3
C. CHRISTIAN.		
1. Jacobite ...	...	4
2. Marthomite ...	...	1
3. Syriac Catholic ...	...	6
4. Latin Catholic ...	...	2
5. South Indian United Church ...	...	2
6. Other Christian ...	...	1

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT REGARDING THE RESULTS OF THE ELECTIONS.

PRESIDENT: The following are the results of the elections held yesterday ;—

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE.

Messrs.	T. P. Velayudhan Pillai got	35 votes.
	Varkala K. Madhavan got	34 votes.
	D. Francis got	2 votes.
	S. Narayana Pillai got	1 vote.
	E. P. Verghese got	1 vote.
	P. Narayana Pillai got	1 vote,
	T. C. Kesava Pillai got	1 vote.

Messrs. T. P. Velayudhan Pillai and Varkala K. Madhavan who got the largest number of votes are therefore declared elected to the Public Accounts Committee.

STANDING FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Messrs.	Padiyara Joseph Kunju got	33 votes.
	G. Velu Pillai got	26 votes.
	Kottalil P. Abraham got	15 votes.
	D. Francis got	2 votes.
	D. C. Joseph got	2 votes.

Messrs. Padiyara Joseph Kunju and G. Velu Pillai who got the largest number of votes are therefore declared elected to the Standing Finance Committee.

TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

Messrs.	K. P. Kochukora Tharakan got	24 votes.
	M. Sivathanu Pillai got	13 votes.
	K. Janardanan Nair got	12 votes.
	T. C. Kesava Pillai got	12 votes.
	K. Kunju Panicker got	10 votes.
	D. C. Joseph got	3 votes.
	D. Francis got	2 votes.

Messrs. K. P. Kochukora Tharakan and M. Sivathanu Pillai who got the largest number of votes are therefore declared elected to the Transport Advisory Committee.

STATEMENT REGARDING COLLECTIONS MADE FOR THE POLICE CLUB.

PRESIDENT: Mr. Inspector-General, you wanted to make a personal statement?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S. ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SUHRAWARDY: Sir, while I was speaking on the Demand for Police Department, there was a reference to the drama staged in aid of labour. The honourable member Mr. Janardanan Nair denied the entire thing. Now I shall read from the proceedings what passed in this Assembly:

> "Now I can understand Mr. Janardanan Nair's attitude. Sir, it is a case of two foxes aiming at grapes. The Police fox aimed at the grapes and got them. Immediately after the police held the drama at Quilon, the labour people encouraged by Mr. Janardanan Nair and his friends, held a drama and it is very unfortunate that they failed to realise any money. So I can very well understand his chagrin,
>
> "Mr. Janardanan Nair: May I know when that drama was staged because I do not remember to have staged any drama in aid of the labour or any other association and to have collected any funds from the public?
>
> "Rajyasevapravina Khan Bahadur G. S. Abdul Karim Sahib Suhrawardy: There have been collections, Sir. Even a good soul like Mr. K. G. Parameswaran Pillai was asked to help and like the good soul he is he helped them."

PRESIDENT: Mr. Janardanen Nair denies all knowledge of a drama: he denies all knowledge of his having been connected with any drama; denies that labour organised any drama. That is the point, is it not?

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: Yes, Sir.

PRESIEDNT: Honourable members are aware of the proceedings. You may give your statement.

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA KHAN BAHADUR G. S. ABDUL KARIM SAHIB SUHRAWARDY: That is the position, Sir. Now here I have got a printed notice in Malayalam, the translation of which runs like this:

> "Rajyasevanirata K. G. Parameswaran Pillai will inaugurate for the Trivandrum Labour Union Fund, Sangeetha Vidwan Vaikom Vasudevan Nair and parties "Rajabhakti", a musical drama in the V. J. T. Hall at 9-30 p. m. on Sunday the 25th Idavam 1117".

Please mark the words "Labour Union Fund". Then the proceedings of this was published in the *Malayala Rajyam* of the 9th June 1942. The following is the translation of the report of the proceedings:

> "It is stated that the Lobour Union President Mr. Janardanan Nair invited Mr. K G. Parameswaran Pillai to inaugurate the function and accordingly Rajyasevanirata started the performance with a short speech. He appreciated the interest evinced by labourers in histrionic art and emphasised the necessity of devoting their spare time for fine arts."

Look at this picture and that. Honourable members can decide for themselves.

One word more, Sir. While we realised Rs. 30,000, they realised only Rs. 300.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: The reference the Inspector-General made was that the Quilon Labour Union attempted to hold a drama or held a drama.

PRESIDENT: There was no such reference.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: I may say that I had no part in the drama.

PRESIDENT: If the honourable member has any personal statement to make, he may do so.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: All that I wish to say is that because I came down to Trivandrum, I invited Mr. K. G. Parameswaran Pillai, but I did not collect any fund or take any part in the committee that organised that drama.

PRESIDENT: In other words, Mr. Janardanan Nair's name happened to be mentioned by chance.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: Not exactly that. Simply because he happened to be the President of the function and was staying at Quilon, such a thing was brought about.

PRESIDENT: Am I to take it that you were not aware of subscriptions having been collected?

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: Only on the day of the drama I was aware of that.

PRESIDENT: It is only natural.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: But I may submit—

PRESIDENT: Order, order. So, your name was mentioned for saving your face.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: Because I happened to be the President of that function.

PRESIDENT: That is a matter for the House to decide.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: Sir, I may also submit that in inviting Mr. K. G. Parameswaran Pillai what really happened was—

PRESIDENT: Order, order. I may add in addition that the offer that I made to the honourable member the other day to give the name of any single person, either a merchant or a constable, has not been complied with and to this moment I have not got any such name.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: May I submit one word, Sir, in this connection. I have already got a statement written from those gentlemen to the effect that.........

PRESIDENT: Order, order. I stated the other day that before that evening I wanted the name. I also said that enquiry will be started that day itself. Up to this time the honourable member has not reported the name of any single person. So, I regard the conduct of the honourable member as open to the gravest possible comment.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: But, Sir, if I could have.........

PRESIDENT: I wanted to conduct an enquiry and the honourable member knows that I am leaving this tomorrow.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: May I submit........

PRESIDENT: Order, order. I said that before lunch time the name should be given to me. I was to conduct an enquiry into the conduct of those persons and two days have elapsed. No names have been presented to me; to this moment I have not got the names. And, the honourable member knows that I cannot hereafter conduct an enquiry into that matter. Therefore, I leave it to the honourable House to decide on what has been the conduct of the honourable member in question.

I may add that I have authorised the Chief Secretary to receive the names. Even if I am going, the Chief Secretary will be perfectly right to receive the names at any time.

RESOLUTIONS ON MATTERS OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST.

MR. G. VELU PILLAI: Sir, I beg to move the following resolution :—

"This Assembly recommends to the Government that necessary steps be taken to prevent fragmentation of holdings in future."

Travancore is mainly an agricultural country and a large majority of its population consists of agriculturists. The staple food of the people of the State is rice, a large portion of which we used to import from outside—from Burma and Siam. But now when those sources are closed to us, we are beginning to look round for new sources and I am glad that Government have begun a vigorous drive for an intensive and extensive cultivation of paddy. It is in this connection and especially at such a time as this that the subject of my resolution becomes important. The progress in intensive farming is seriously hampered by various conditions and circumstances, among which the fragmentation of holdings and their pepper-pot distribution is the most important. By that the energies of the Agricultural Department in experimental work, propaganda, and introduction of better seeds and better fertilisers will be frustrated in a large measure.

There is no doubt, that the large increase in the fractionalisation of holdings is a recent phenomenon. In olden days population pressure was less heavy, while the cultivation unit was the joint family estate. Partition was then uncommon. But now things are changed. The laws of inheritance, the right to partition in most communities, the easy facilities for conveyance, and the increase of population have been chiefly instrumental in the indiscriminate fragmentation of holdings. Indebtedness of the small holder, forced sale and land hunger have also helped a great deal in that direction.

Travancore is a country of small holdings. Of the total number of holdings about 6 per cent. are less than 20 cents in extent, about 26 per cent. less than 60 cents, 38 per cent. less than 5 acres and

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95·5 per cent. less than 10 acres. Only 4·5 per cent. are 10 acres and more. If an area of ten acres is considered to be the minimum size of an economic holding, only less than 5 per cent. of the holdings are economic. The passing of the Nair, Ezhava and other Acts provide for the division of ancestral property, enabling individuals to claim their share and alienate them as they choose.

The disadvantages of the fragmentation of holdings and their pepper-pot distribution are obvious. Scattered ownership of small fields stands in the way of permanent land improvements. Toy holdings restrain the farmer not only from adopting more improved methods but also from intensive cultivation. The waste of labour in carrying manure, implements, etc., to tiny plots situated at a distance from one another, the waste of land in providing ridges, and waste of time and energy in traversing field to field with the plough and cattle for agricultural operations, are only too well known.

PRESIDENT: It is almost conceded on all hands that some steps should be taken and Government would be grateful indeed, if honourable members who speak on this resolution will give some indication of their solution or the proposed solution of the difficulties connected with this problem.

MR. G. VELU PILLAI: Yes, Sir. As the evils of fragmentation and the difficulties connected therewith are well known, I do not propose to say anything more on that topic. Though this distressing factor in our rural economy is admitted on all hands, no concentrated effort has so far been made to attack it in our State. In my opinion we seem to be simply overwhelmed by the immensity of the task involved in consolidating hundreds of millions of holdings and the feeling that the obstacles in the way of such a venture are almost insurmountable. No one denies the difficulties arising from the inherent conservatism of the cultivator who dislikes the idea of exchange and rearrangement of his holdings, leading to disturbance of his ancestral plots, not to speak of the numerous technical and legal difficulties involved in making the compacts as well as in keeping them. But when once an attempt is made, people will come to realise its good effects and they will welcome it. That was exactly what happened in Germany some years back when Land Commissioners were appointed to consolidate and rearrange agricultural holdings. This is a statement of what happened in one State in Germany.

> "After first rising in revolt against the proposed readjustment of their holdings stoning the surveyors and chasing them away, the people of this commune ended by submitting to the proposal, and having seen the advantages which resulted, showed their appreciation in the way that they received the Minister for Agriculture. The Minister was received by almost all the male population on the outskirts of the village, and the chief of the deputation, who four years before had lodged the protest in Berlin, advanced and thanked the Minister for the readjustment of lands which had been carried out against the wishes of the inhabitants, stating that they had not understood the matter, but now they quite appreciated the advantages of the operation which had in many cases trebled the value of the 'land affected.'
>
> "In the above cases restripment was carried out under the law upon the application of a majority of the land-holders affected."

From a study of the action taken in other countries especially in Europe, it is clear that a remedy can be found for the evils of sub-division and fragmentation of land.

In England, the old law of entail, the custom of primogeniture and the difficulties involved in the conveyancing of land have resulted in the concentration of land in the hands of a very few persons and consequently there has been in England no question of excessive sub-division of land.

PRESIDENT : But Lord Birkenhead changed the law of entail, the Law of Primogeniture and certain other laws.

MR. G. VELU PILLAI: Yes, but those laws stood in the way of fragmentation in England while at that time fragmentation was going on at a rapid pace in the other countries of Europe.

PRESIDENT : But it has been complained of now in England also.

MR. G. VELU PILLAI : *In France*, the situation was the opposite. But Acts passed so early as 1908, 1909 and 1910 allowed every farmer to voluntarily place beyond the possibility of expropriation and seizure for debt a holding of a value not exceeding 8000 francs (Rs. 5,000) which is occupied and worked by his family. This holding remains a joint family property. The law has been much improved now in the direction of more effective consolidation of holdings.

In Germany, during the past 50 years much work has been done in the way of creating and resettling peasants holdings on an economic basis. The economic holdings thus formed cannot be sub-divided. The holdings cannot be transferred to persons outside the family of the holder except with the consent of the commission. The holding passes intact to the principal heir, the other heirs obtaining only limited shares in the form of annuities.

In Switzerland also various laws were passed to effect consolidation of holdings, the principle having been accepted by the Swiss Federal Legislature. Article 703 of the old Swiss Civil Code provides for the compulsory readjustment of land if 2/3 of the people interested accept the project.

Laws similar to these exist in Spain, Denmark, Sweden, Italy etc.

In Japan also the same thing has been done.

Because of the inconvenience caused by the existence of numerous small lots sometimes belonging to the same proprietor and scattered over a large area, the Japanese Government, following the example of other countries appointed Commissions to effect readjustment of lands.

A law for the readjustment of lands was passed so early as in 1899 and amended in 1909. The law provided for—

1. The necessary interchange of land and the restriping of lots.
2. The construction of roads, irrigation works, etc.

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In order to obtain authorisation to form a Syndicate for the re-adjustment of farm lands it is necessary to obtain the consent of at least half the land-owners in the tract in which the Syndicate intends to work and these land-owners must represent two-thirds of the land affected. The farms restriped are exempted from land tax, and special credit institutions are provided to finance them.

So far as the work has gone, it has resulted in considerable improvements in roads and canals, an increase in rice growing, and the general convenience of all concerned."

In Russia we are told that by collective farming a miracle has been achieved in the U. S. S. R.

PRESIDENT: In Russia that State is doing the whole business. They are running the whole machinery. Wherever there are house. and plots of lands which may be fit for cultivation they are collected together. Suppose there are 10 acre blocks lying separately in an area and if it has to be converted into a hundred acre plot, then the houses and other places intervening will all be demolished. Cultivation is done and by that method, Russia produces 7 times the yield than it was producing years back. Whether that method is practicable at the moment in this part of the country is the question now.

MR. G. VELU PILLAI: Much of this work was done by persuasion also.

PRESIDENT: Only very little was done like that.

MR. G. VELU PILLAI: But in the book "Soviet communism" the authors Sydney and Beatrice say thus:—

"The five year Russian plan for agricultural development is generally looked with disfavour by other countries mainly on the ground that large collective farming and mechanisation of agriculture became possible there only by a process of wholesale expropriation accomplished by ruthless repression."

MR. K. G. GOVINDAN: Is it the suggestion of the member whether we should have that sort of thing namely ruthless repression?

MR. G. VELU PILLAI: I would request the honourable member to hear me patiently till the end and then question.

The authors continue.

"While it is true that liquidation of the Landlord and the relatively well-to-do peasants was effected by methods which must appear to us revolting, it is well to know that the bulk of the 25 million peasant families in Russia, who consisted of the poor grade and the middle grade peasants were brought largely if not wholly into the collective farms by persuasion and demonstration of the success of the collective farms, which offered them prospects of large share than their tiny holdings had ever yielded."

Therefore my submission is that if our co-operators also put forth strenuous endeavours to persuade our peasantry similarly, we can achieve some measure of success.

The foreign experts, who came out to India to help the Indian Central Banking Enquiry Committee, were very emphatic on this aspect of rural economy, and left their opinion on record that agricultural development in India is well nigh impossible unless the State takes drastic action to bring about consolidation of uneconomic holdings. In order to help the State in this task, much can be done by way of persuasion, and voluntary consolidation and education of public opinion as regards the need for legislation. Thus the consolidation of agricultural holdings through legislative measures is the most crying need of the day.

MR. K. G. GOVINDAN: May I know whether there is any legislative measure anywhere in India for the prevention of fragmentation of holdings?

MR. G. VELU PILLAI: Yes, in the Panjab there is a legislation. In the Central Provinces also there is. A bill was also introduced some years ago in the Bombay Legislative Council which unfortunately did not fructify.

This situation as well as the need for legislative measures were correctly judged by the Dewan-President when he said as follows.

> "Such careful husbanding and augmenting of resources in respect of paddy can only arise if the holding is economic. The cultivation of half an acre or one acre or two acres even under modern conditions will not be economic. The first problem therefore is a matter both legal and social. If and to the extent to which the communities concerned bring about a change of the law so as to permit the aggregation instead of fragmentation of holdings, the necessary move would have been made by these communities. But assuming that the communities do not take these steps, Government cannot afford to sit still. Governmet will have to introduce legislation for compulsory consolidation. Government do not propose to alter the laws of any community except with the full consent of that community. But Government certainly can introduce legislation for preventing further fragmentation and imposing consolidation. That has been done elsewhere and done with some success in the Punjab. Government will wait for a short period of time, say six months, to see if the communities concerned will themselves take the necessary steps. Otherwise Government will necessarily have to introduce a legislation tending to consolidation.

But no community has so far come forward with any such proposal and Government too have not done anything in the matter.

I submit that it is more than a year since you spoke these words and Government have not taken any steps towards consolidation. Till now neither the communities concerned have done anything in the matter. Therefore it is high time that necessary steps be taken in that direction.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: May I know what extent of land will be considered as an economic holding?

MR. G. VELU PILLAI: Say about 10 acres. In the Punjab work has already begun with this object in view. More than a thousand Consolidation Societies are at work in the Punjab at present and more than a million acres of land have been consolidated by this time. The Punjab Registrar, in his report, says that money spent by Government on this work is money well-spent. Sir, let us also make an attempt in this direction on some such lines. With these words I commend my resolution for the acceptance of the House.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI: I wish to put one question to the honourable member, whether the member proposes to amend his motion?

PRESIDENT: Mr. T. P. Velayudhan Pillai has given notice of an amendment.

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: The question which we have to discuss is a very difficult and complicated one. The problem of fragmentation was not of much importance to us till the passing of the social legislation affecting Marumakathayam communities especially the Nairs, Ezhavas, and the Nanjinad Vellalas. It is needless to enquire whether we were wise on our part in enacting laws giving right of partition to individual members. There is no law in Travancore except what is contained in Order 26 rule 14 (4) of the Civil Procedure Code which places any limition the division of immovable property. Section 42 of the Nair Regulation also adopts a similar provision, but the provision seems to be ineffective so far as property is concerned. The Indian Partition Act IV of 1913 has not been adopted by us. Even the Partition Act of 1913 does not seem to have affected the problem.

Six years after the passing of the Nair and the Ezhava Acts the Banking Enquiry Committee (1930) said "The Marumakathayam law of inheritance in the case of the Nair, the Ezhava and the Nanjinad Vellala Communities has been acting as a check on alienation of lands by sale.........with the passing of the social legislations affecting these communities family properties have become partible. It has to be noted that properties are being parcelled into small bits in a large number of cases. This has brought in its train the natural consequence of expropriation of holders of lands which were too small for profitable cultivation. The number of partitions effected in Nair tarwards in 1928-29 was 7194 to the value of 98 odd lakhs, in Ezhava tarwards the number was 3097 to the value of 23 odd lakhs, and in Nanjinad Vellala families, the number was 198 to the value of 7 odd lakhs. The statistics we have are not sufficient to gauge the seriousness of the evil of fragmentation and without a searching enquiry the necessity for any legislative measure for restricting alienations by the communities cannot be determined".

This is the only reference with regard to the question of fragmentation anywhere in any of the reports of the committee appointed so far. There was a committee on Co-operation, but even that committee has not referred to the question at all.

The division of holdings has been going on and unless some proper provision is introduced the problem is bound to assume very serious proportions.

In discussing this question it would be useful to study what has been done elsewhere before we decide what action should be taken in our own country. It seems to me that it is not enough to say that Government should take the necessary steps to prevent fragmentation of holdings. The question is what are the steps that are necessary to prevent fragmentation; and for this purpose, a study of what has been done elsewhere will be very important and instructive. The literature on the subject is very large and has to be studied before remedial measures are adopted. The growing sub-division of agricultural holdings and its consequent evils have attracted the notice of many statesmen in India and great economists also have discussed this question.

A great deal also has been written during the last quarter of a century. The awakening of public interest in this question has resulted in practical measures being adopted.

This problem is not peculiar to India. It is a common problem throughout the continent of Europe. But there, more attention seems to be paid to the question of consolidation of scattered holdings and not to the question of fragmentation in the sense in which we want it to be discussed.

In the Punjab, in the United Provinces, in Bombay and also in Madras, the question has come to the attention of the Governments at one time or other. In the Punjab, legislative action was taken so recently as in 1936 by the passing of the Punjab Consolidation of Holdings Act IV of 1936. The question had been under the consideration of the Punjab Government for a long time and some very striking results had also been achieved there through the agency of the Co-operative Department. The problem has been discussed and great propaganda work has also been done by eminent Indian administrators like Keatinge and others. In March 1916 a motion was brought in the Bombay Legislative Council, requesting Government to consider the question and the motion was during discussion amended into a resolution for the appointment of a committee. But the resolution was rejected on the ground that the people were not prepared for a change at that time. The evil was, however admitted by the Government, but no action was taken by the Bombay Government because to do so was considered inexpedient until a strong public opinion was developed in favour of it. In 1917 on the suggestions put forward by Dr. Gilbert Slater and by Mr. Keatinge, the Director of Agriculture in Bombay, the Madras Government seems to have asked their Board of Revenue to consider this question of fragmentation. The Board was also asked to consider the advisability of adopting certain proposals made by Government themselves with a similar object in view. It was pointed out by Mr. Keatinge that by reason of subdivision and fragmentation (processes which he was careful to distinguish) the agricultural holdings of the Bombay Presidency had to a large extent been reduced to a condition in which effective cultivation was impossible; land, in fact, was distributed in such a way that a large and increasing proportion of the holdings had become 'uneconomic.' Dr. Slater also found that similar conditions prevailed in Madras. The Board of Revenue, after getting the reports of the various Collectors of the districts, seems to have told the Government that no action need be taken at that time. It appears that there was a G. O. in 1919 but I have not been able to get a copy of the Proceedings.

The Baroda State took up the question in 1915. Certain proposals were made by the Director of Commerce, Mr. Nanavathi and on his suggestion, the question was referred to the District officers but as there was divergence of opinion among them, the Government appointed a committee to go thoroughly into the question. The committee submitted their report in 1917, and on the recommendation made by

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them, Permissive Act was introduced and passed in the Baroda State. This Permissive Act was intended to bring about the consolidation of scattered holding when 2/3 of the cultivators in a village agreed. This Act is mainly concerned with consolidation of holdings. Though the committee made proposals in regard to consolidation of holdings and also in regard to prevention of further fragmentation in the villages the Act of 1920 only concerns itself with the consolidation of holdings, and that only as a Permissive Act which the villagers can take advantage of according to the opinion of the majority of the cultivators of the village. The report of the committee dealt with two kinds of remedial measures, (1) relating to the arrest of further sub-division, and (2) relating to the re-union of lands already divided. The Act of 1920 is in regard to the second. The work of consolidation of holdings cannot alone achieve lasting good unless supplemented by endeavours to prevent further fragmentation of lands. On the suggestion therefore of the select committee appointed to consider the Baroda Civil Procedure Code Amendment Bill, the inadequate provisions relating to partition in that Bill were dropped and the Baroda Partition of Immovable Property Act was introduced in 1923 and passed in 1924. That is all that has been done to prevent fragmentation in the Baroda State. Even in regard to this attempt the Dewan, in the Administration report of 1923-24, says, "I am afraid they (the proposals) seem to be far in advance of the popular sentiment on the subject. The motives of Government are misunderstood and misrepresented and people are not yet prepared to accept these salutary checks on further fragmentation of lands." It will be instructive to enquire how the law has been working in the Baroda State.

The report of the Baroda Committee contains much useful information. The Committee found, as a matter of fact, that agricultural lands in Baroda were being sub-divided to a very large extent and that the main cause of sub-division was the law of inheritance followed by the people. The following remedial measures were considered by the committee to arrest the further sub-division of lands.

(1) that the law of inheritance should be amended.

This proposal was rejected by them.

(2) that a law should be passed enabling an acquirer to dispose of his acquisitions imposing restrictions on the right to partition.

This proposal was also not accepted by the Committee.

(3) that the law of primogeniture should be introduced.

This was also not approved by the Committee.

The last suggestion was that the principle of not dividing immoveable property among the heirs where the division would lead to inconveniently small shares but of giving to the highest bidder among the sharers or to outsiders and dividing the money among them should be accepted. This was the suggestion that was adopted by the Committee and it was proposed on the recommendation of the committee

that for preventing fragmentation certain rules in the Land Revenue Code should be amended and that the Civil Procedure Code also should be amended. Subsequently the C. P. C. Amendment Bill was introduced and on the recommendation of the select committee a separate Act on partition was introduced and passed in 1924.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: Was the law of Primogeniture considered at that time?

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: Yes. The Baroda State seems to have undertaken the solution of this problem in all earnestness. Their attention seems to have been directed more on the task of consolidation of small and scattered holdings as in several countries in Europe, than to find effective remedies for the prevention of further fragmentation.

PRESIDENT: It must be remembered that in Baroda the whole of the profitable cultivation is cotton and not paddy.

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: It does not seem to me that the action taken in Baroda in regard to the prevention of further fragmentation has been adequate. The Baroda State seems to have thought it necessary to do some propaganda work so as to enable the people to adopt the provisions of the permissive legislation of 1920. For that purpose it was suggested to the Government that a special officer should be deputed to go to Europe and study conditions prevailing on the Continent of Europe. In 1920 the Government appointed Mr. R. S. Patel to study the question of re-alignment of agricultural holdings on the Continent of Europe so that he may come with the necessary information when he was ordered to take up this work. Mr. Patel visited Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Belgium, France, Switzerland and Italy and almost all the countries on the Continent of Europe and he submitted a report in 1922. This report, so far as the conditions prevailing in the countries on the Continent of Europe is a valuable book of reference. I may also submit that the International Institute of Agriculture in Rome also furnishes valuable information regarding the work undertaken in the various countries in the Continent of Europe for the consolidation of scattered holdings. The study of the conditions in Europe do not seem to me to be of very great help so far as we are concerned. We are mainly concerned with the prevention of further fragmentation of holdings. The work of consolidation of holdings is only a further step and not quite suitable to conditions here. In Europe attention seems to have been more directed on the consolidation of scattered holdings than on new fragmentation.

The disadvantages of fragmentation of holdings have been dealt with in great detail in the Baroda report and I think it is unnecessary for me to dilate upon them here. But before we undertake legislation or before we adopt any remedial measures it will be useful to study the conditions prevailing in the various provinces in India and also study the literature on the subject. The literature is pretty large and in almost several countries like the Punjab and other places the problem is not yet solved. I submit that this work of studying the conditions in the various countries and of making suitable recommendation

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should be entrusted to a committee or to a special officer who will be willing to undertake and who will be capable of doing such kind of work. In this connection I also wish to point out that the evils of fragmentation should be brought home to the people and that co-operative societies are best fitted for the task of educating the public. With these words I support the motion.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: Sir, I beg to move an amendment to the resolution before the House. My amendment is this. At the end of the resolution add the following :

> " by introducing the necessary legislative measures for the purpose."

Sir, with the amendment the resolution will read as follows :

> " This Assembly recommends to the Government that necessary steps be taken to prevent fragmentation of holdings in future by introducing the necessary legislative measures for the purpose."

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI : Sir, may I make a suggestion? The resolution, as amended by the honourable member would deal only with legislation for prevention of future fragmentation. I would like to know whether the mover of the resolution or his supporter Mr. Velayudhan Pillai propose to suggest legislation for consolidation of existing fragmented holdings also ?

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI : Sir, to meet the point raised by the learned Legal Remembrancer I may be permitted to amend the resolution as follows :

> " This Assembly recommends to the Government that steps be taken for the introduction of the necessary legislative measures for the consolidation of holdings and also for the prevention of fragmentation of holdings in future."

Sir, even though we can bring forward a good deal of arguments in favour of this resolution, I am sure that, unless the Government take steps for the introduction of legislative measures in this matter, our pious wish is not at all likely to materialise at any time.

Sir, the serious, far-reaching consequences of the fragmentation of holdings and the indispensable necessity for taking immediate steps for the prevention of such fragmentation, and for the consolidation of already fragmented holdings have been brought to the attention of the general public by the Dewan of the State on more occasions than one, not only in the House but outside this House, in the course of his several speeches delivered at many important conferences over which he presided. Sir, in the annual conference of the Nair community held in the year 1118 at Pandalam, this question came up for discussion. A resolution was passed by an overwhelming majority to the effect that a committee should be appointed to consider this important question in all its aspects and also for finding out an adequate and suitable solution for tackling this important problem. Sir, even though much time has already expired, nothing tangible has been done by that committee in this direction. So my submission is that unless Government are prepared to take immediate legislative measures for this purpose, we may not get any solution or remedy in the near future. With these words I move my amendment for the acceptance of the House.

MR. P. S. MUHAMED: I second it.

MR. K. DOMINIC JOSEPH: Sir, statistics have been quoted by the honourable mover of the resolution to show that lands in Travancore are in an extremely fragmented condition and secondly that they have become uneconomic holdings. This is a problem that is not confined to Travancore alone. It was felt in an acute form in the Punjab.

(At this stage the President left the House and the Deputy President took the Chair).

There, Mr. Brayne the famous rural reconstruction officer suggested that there was an excellent opportunity for co-operation and under his leadership, co-operation seized the opportunity and we can see co-operation at its best in the Panjab. There what was done was that all the lands in a village were brought under a common pool. Lands for roads and pathways were set apart. Lands for common purposes such as schools, playgrounds and places of worship were set apart. Then the remaining lands were divided among the villagers in proportion to their original holdings. Thus the several, villagers got their lands in a compact block and there was saving of a good deal of money which otherwise they would have spent because they had scattered holdings. But conditions are not the same in Travancore. There are no regular villages in this country. As was pointed out once by the Dewan-President either there are no villages in Travancore or there is only one village, that is, the whole Travancore State is one village. Therefore the methods adopted in other parts of India where the village system exists, cannot be adopted in this State as a whole. These methods may be adopted where there are extensive tracts of paddy lands as in Kuttanad or Nanjinad. But in places where there are other kinds of lands this becomes well-nigh impracticable. What can be done in this matter is by Legislative enactments. It can be enacted that lands less than, say, one acre will not be registered, that in respect of small blocks, partition will not be effected. Some such drastic measure appears to be necessary in this direction.

MR KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: Sir, the problem seems to be rather a difficult and complicated problem. In Travancore the average holding of arable land per head is 49 cents. In Trivandrum Division the average is 40·8 cents per head; in Quilon Division it is 34·9 cents per head and in Kottayam Division it is 72·1 cents per head. This state of things is considered to be not at all economic. In Travancore some lands of one acre, some others of five acres—these little bits are considered to be sufficient for the maintenance of an individual. Indeed in the case of the depressed classes and other backward communities, Government very often allot one acre in some cases and 5 acres in other cases. But even that proportion is considered to be very inadequate and uneconomic. The mover of the resolution said that in his opinion nothing less than ten acres would be considered economic. There is no doubt that a check should be made on the further fragmentation of our holdings and means found out for a proper consolidation. Conditions in Europe and in British India have been referred to by the mover and by the honourable member Mr. Ramakrishna Pillai. And it is also conceded

[Mr. Kottalil P. Abraham]

that conditions in Travancore are not the same as those in Europe or in other parts of India. It makes our problem more difficult. Even in regard to the question of a proper standard or unit of an economic holding, there is difference of opinion. That itself has to be considered in various aspects. It is commonly agreed, Sir, that the present state of things is not satisfactory and that a solution should therefore be found. The mover referred to the Dewan-President's warning urging upon the different communities in the State to find a solution for the problem failing which the Government would be compelled to take proper measures in the matter.

Mr. Puliyoor T. P. Velayudhan Pillai has told us just now that the Nair Service Society had appointed a special committee to investigate the matter and to bring forward suggestions for the solution of the problem. Although the report of that committee has not been yet ready or published we hope that they may be able to formulate in due course some useful suggestions, the problem being a difficult one and not capable of a ready and easy solution all at once. I agree with Mr. Ramakrishna Pillai who said that before any definite step is taken by way of legislation, a committee should be constituted to enquire into the matter and make a report on which this House or the Government may take further proceedings. If the amendment as moved by Mr. Velayudhan Pillai is accepted, we have to entrust the whole matter to Government and Government have to bring forward on their initiative a bill without making such proper enquiries as will be done by a committee. My submission is that before introducing legislative measures as contemplated by the amended resolution, a special expert committee, and not merely a special officer, should be appointed by the Government to go into the matter thoroughly and report, on which this House and the Government may have further consideration. With these words I support the original resolution and oppose the amendment.

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: Sir, this is one of those resolutions on which every honourable member of this House who may get a chance is under a sacred obligation to speak. It is on account of the importance of the subject that I propose to intervene in the discussion even at this early stage. I am very happy, Sir, to find that many people who contributed to the dismemberment of tarwad properties, to the frustration of the hopes with which tarwads were founded, the representatives of those who thought that individualism was everything and that the tarwad property was an evil -- the surviving representatives of that school, at least one of them, have come forward to sponsor an economic measure, namely, that this dismemberment should be arrested and that the holdings must be compact so that there may be economic holdings. I am therefore glad, Sir, to congratulate my old and dear friend Mr. Ramakrishna Pillai who after nearly twenty years has realised the mistakes of a party which went in for indiscriminate individual partition, a party which indented freely upon Mr. Ramakrishna Pillai's intelligence.

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: Can it not be that I have changed my opinion since?

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: That is a matter for the House to decide. There is the statement made by the member before the House years ago and there is the comment which I am making on that statement and it is for the House to form its opinion. That is a very material point to strengthen my argument and to explain it to members who were not members at that time and to put my case before them for the economic prosperity of the country. I am only mentioning it and I mean no offence or disparagement to anybody. On the other hand, I admire a man who has got the courage to change his opinion in the light of later developments. Therefore when I find my friend, Mr. Ramakrishna Pillai asking for that terrible hobgoblin of individualism to go out, I congratulate him.

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: Is it my friend's view that Marumakkathayam is......

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: Sir, after all Marumakkathayam is not a disgrace and when we are living in a country where the Ruling House is following Marumakkathayam, I forbid any such question. If Marumakkathayam was a bad system, if it was anything like an immoral system, if it is against nature, what is the meaning of anybody in Travancore saying that it is a bad system and an immoral system? Sir, let me not be drawn into any such controversy. I am only talking of one aspect of that law which enabled individual partition to be effected and which was passed 18 years ago and which has affected adversely not only the Marumakkathayam tarwads but other families too have been affected by it. That is my complaint. Sir, I am only sorry that many people who took a distinguished part in the making of that law my esteemed friends, both official and non-official, Ambalapuzha Krishna Pillai, Dr. Kunjan Pillai, Changanacherry Parameswaran Pillai, P. K. Narayana Pillai and K. P. Raman Pillai, are dead and I venerate their memory. I shall mention a few facts.

I wish to read a few passages from a speech reported in the Travancore Legislative Council Proceedings dated 16th April 1923.

> "The Nairs are an agricultural people and the excessive sub-division of land will pave the way to ruination. The advantages of large farming compared to small farming are well-known. The disadvantage of small scattered holdings has been emphasised by scientists and administrators in recent years and notably by Mr. Keatinge in the Bombay Presidency. The following reference to the report of a committee appointed by the Government of His Highness the Gaekwar of Baroda to make proposals on the consolidation of small and scattered holdings in the State, quoted in Professor Kale's Indian Economics is highly instructive. The report states that (1) land has already been minutely subdivided, (2) preventive measures must be taken and the present limit of sub division must be raised (3) the growing sub-divisions are mainly due to the operation of Hindu and other laws of inheritance;"

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: May I know the name of the person who made the speech?

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: A member whom I consider worthy of some credit, Mr. T. K. Velu Pillai who was rather a prominent member of that Council also. I thought my friend would have understood from the language and strength of the speech that it would be of Mr. T. K. Velu Pillai and nobody else.

[Sadasyatilaka T. K. Velu Pillai]

"—(4) sub-divisions have made agriculture uneconomic and wasteful. The Committee recommends that the minimum dimensions of an economic holding may be passed to effect the consolidation of exsiting small and scattered holdings The creation of impartible holdings appears to be the permanent policy of certain States In Denmark and Germany and several other countries of the west the fragmentation of agricultural land is permitted only with the consent of the local Government authority. The number of shares into which the tarwad may be divided should therefore be as small as possible. The case of the house-property is even more important. In France and the United States, there are laws passed with the object of securing the permanancy of the home by making it inalienable and non-hypothecable."

These statements were made by Mr. T. K. Velu Pillai 19 years ago. I must say that there were in Travancore people even at that time who thought that unrestricted right should not be given to the Nair community, a community which other communities like the Ezhava and Nanjanad Vellalas wanted to follow in some respects, for dividing their properties. My learned friend Mr. Velayudhan Pillai referred to a statement made by Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar at Pandalam. I am very glad that a person who sympathises with a large community like the Nair community as Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar should be praised for giving those ideas and those are surely entitled to great weight. But notwithstanding his eloquent appeal, the fact remains that the Nair Service Society is unable to do anything with regard to the prevention of fragmentation of holdings. I hope they will be able to do that. If there is anybody responsible for the well-being of the community that is the Nair Service Society. They might change their ideas and ideals from time to time. But on this question they were unmoved till the Dewan advised them. I am sure that my friends like Mr. T. P. Velayudhan Pillai with great motive powers will try to see that the mistakes are rectified. I am not going to say anything more on that point. But at that time when this question was discussed my good friend like Mr. Ramakrishna Pillai and his friends will not listen to me. The world has gained by it and the sun has shone. After 20 years, the germs which did not thrive in that sterile soil has now begun to develop. I welcome the great enthusiasm with which he has put the matter before the House. I learned from the papers that the present Dewan had advised to do something in the matter. I was very glad and I myself thought that I might draft a bill. But later on I thought that the best thing would be for the Government to undertake the legislation. I would like to close my remarks by saying that all honour is due to anybody who does anything to prevent this waste of property thus closing the door to destruction. Ours is a country where a large percentage of the population is involved in litigation. It is high time that we prevent it. I for one am very happy that things which I said 20 years ago have now been said with very great emphasis by my friend Mr. Ramakrishna Pillai who along with his other friends would not listen to then. I therefore say that in this matter the Government will be pleased to get a proper enquiry conducted not by persons who get elected merely by chance or nominated. Of course

some of them are very good men. If a committee is to be appointed there must be persons who are able to understand sound economic ideals and sound propositions of law and also understand what is the condition of the land or the land holders in this county. Before I close I must say that I am very glad that although nobody would listen to me at that time, I appealed to the great tribunal of time and the time has indicated it."

MR. K. G. GOVINDAN : Is it the honourable member's suggestion that there must be reversion to the old Marumakkathayam system of inheritance?

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI : സർ, "Fragmentation of land holdings" എന്ന വിഷയം ഒരു കർഷകരാജ്യമായ ഈ തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ വളരെ പ്രാധാന്യമായിരിക്കുന്നു. ഈ വിഷയത്തെ സംബന്ധിച്ച് എക്കണോമിക്ക് ബോർഡ് നല്ലതുപോലെ ആലോചിച്ച് ചില ഏർപ്പാടുകൾ നടത്തി ക്രോഡീകരിച്ച ഒരു റിപ്പോർട്ടു ഹാജരാക്കാൻ ഗവണ്മെൻറു നിർദ്ദേശിച്ചു. ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട ഗവണ്മെൻറിൽ നിന്നും, ഇപ്രകാരമുള്ള ജോലി സെൻസസോടുകൂടി ഏറെറടുത്തു നടത്തുന്നതു് നന്നായിരിക്കുമെന്നും, അതിനൊരു തീരുമാനം കൂടി ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കണമെന്നും ആയതുകൊണ്ട് സബ് കമ്മിററിക്കാർ ഇതിൻെറ ജോലി ചെയ്യേണ്ട എന്നു തീർച്ചപ്പെടുത്തുകയുംചെയ്തു. ഏതായാലും ഇതു് അത്യാവശ്യമായ ഒരു പ്രമേയമാണ്. വിവിധമെമ്പറന്മാർ ഉൾപ്പെട്ടതായ ഒരു കമ്മിററിയുടെ കർശനമായ പരിശോധനക്കുശേഷം എഴുതി ഉണ്ടാക്കിയ റിപ്പോർട്ടിന്മേൽ മാത്രമേ നിയമജ്ഞന്മാർ ഇതിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ച് ഒരു നിയമം ഉണ്ടാക്കാൻ പാടുള്ളു. ഇപ്രകാരമുള്ള ഒരു കമ്മിററിയിൽ നിയമിതരായ അംഗങ്ങൾ നാട്ടിൻെറ നാനാഭാഗത്തുമുള്ള ഭൂമികളുടെ ഇനം, അതിൻെറ അനുഭവം, വിളവുള്ള ഭൂമി, ഭൂമിയുടെ ഫലവ്യത്യാസം, അതിൻെറ അനുഭവവ്യത്യാസം, മണ്ണിൻെറ വ്യത്യാസം മുതലായ പ്രധാന സംഗതികളെപ്പററി സൂക്ഷ്മമായി അന്വേഷിച്ചതിൻെറ ശേഷം എഴുതുന്ന ഒരു റിപ്പോർട്ടാണ് നമുക്ക് അത്യാവശ്യം. അല്ലാതെ ഇററലി, ജർമ്മനി, ബ്രിട്ടീഷ് ഇൻഡ്യ, ബറോഡാ ഈ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ നായർറഗുലേഷൻ വന്നപ്പോൾ അവിടെ അനുകരിച്ചതായ തത്വങ്ങൾ നാം സ്വീകരിക്കേണ്ട ആവശ്യമില്ല. ആ നാട്ടിൽ ഈ മുൻ പറഞ്ഞതായ പ്രശ്നങ്ങൾ ആലോചിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നും അവർ സ്വീകരിച്ച തത്വങ്ങളെല്ലാം ശരിയാണെന്നും ഞാൻ സമ്മതിക്കുന്നു. ആ തത്വങ്ങളെ ആസ്പദമാക്കി ഒരു നിയമം ഉടനടി നടപ്പിൽ വരുത്തേണ്ടതു് അത്യാവശ്യമാണെന്നു പറഞ്ഞതല്ലാതെ തിരുവിതാംകൂറിനകത്തു് അതിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ച് എന്തെല്ലാം വ്യവസ്ഥകൾ ചെയ്യണമെന്ന്

[Mr. T. C. Kesava Pillai]

പറഞ്ഞുകാണുന്നില്ല. തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലെ ഭൂമി, കുടിജന്മം, ജന്മം, പണ്ടാരപ്പാട്ടം, കണ്ടുകൃഷി, മേലങ്ങോണം, തനതു പാട്ടം, ചാവേററു വിരുത്തി ഇങ്ങനെ വീതിച്ചു കിടക്കുകയാണ്. കൂടാതെ ഊട്ടുകൂറു വസ്തുക്കളും ഉണ്ടു്. ഊട്ടുകൂറിനത്തിൽ ഒരു സെൻറു സ്ഥലത്തു് ആയിരം അവകാശികൾ കാണും. ഇതുമാതിരി ഊട്ടുകൂറു സ്ഥലങ്ങളെ സംബന്ധിച്ചുള്ള സംഗതികൾ ഈ റിപ്പോർട്ടിൽ കൊണ്ടുവന്നു് ഊട്ടുകൂറു വ്യവസ്ഥയെ സംബന്ധിച്ചൊരു തീരുമാനം ഉണ്ടാക്കുകയും കണ്ടെഴുത്തിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ചിടത്തോളം വേണ്ട വ്യവസ്ഥകൾ ചെയ്യുകയും അതിനുശേഷം ഇതിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു നല്ലപോലെ ആലോചിച്ചു ഇപ്രകാരം ഒരു നിയമം ഉണ്ടാക്കുകയും ചെയ്യണം. ഇവിടത്തെ ഭൂമിയെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു നോക്കുകയാണെങ്കിൽ ഈ വിഷയത്തിൽ അതിനെ രണ്ടായിത്തിരിക്കണമെന്നാണു എൻെറ അഭിപ്രായം. നിലങ്ങളെ ഒന്നാക്കുന്നതിനു യാതൊരു വിഷമവുമില്ല. പുരയിടങ്ങളെ ഒന്നാക്കുന്ന വിഷയത്തിൽ വളരെ വൈഷമ്യമുണ്ടു്. ഒരു പുരയിടത്തിൽ ഒരു ഭാഗത്തിന് ഒരു സെൻറിന് ൫ രൂപായും മററുഭാഗത്തുള്ള സ്ഥലത്തിന് ഒരു സെൻറിനു ൫൦ രൂപായും വിലയായിരിക്കും. ബ്രിട്ടീഷ് ഇൻഡ്യയിലും മററും, ഓരോ ഗ്രാമങ്ങളിൽ അഞ്ചേക്കർ സ്ഥലത്തു് ൫൦൦-ൽ പരം വീടുകൾ ഒന്നിച്ചാണ് സ്ഥിതിചെയ്യുന്നതു. അവരുടെ കൃഷിസ്ഥലങ്ങൾ ആ ഗ്രാമങ്ങളുടെ നാലുവശത്തും പത്തും ഇരുപത്തഞ്ചും ചതുരശ്രമൈൽ വിസ്തീർണ്ണതയിലാണ് കിടക്കുന്നതു. അതുകൊണ്ടു ഇതുമാതിരി ഒരു നിയമം അവിടെ ഏർപ്പെടുത്തുന്നതിൽ യാതൊരു ദൂഷ്യവും ഇല്ല. തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലാണെങ്കിൽ ഓരോരുത്തരുടെ വീടിരിക്കുന്ന സ്ഥലവും കൃഷിസ്ഥലങ്ങളാണ്. ഇപ്രകാരമുള്ള കൃഷിസ്ഥലങ്ങളേയും, വീടുകളേയുമാണ് ഇപ്പോൾ ഈ നിയമത്താൽ ഛിന്നഭിന്നമാക്കിയിട്ടുള്ളതു്. അതുകൊണ്ടു് വീടും പുരയിടവും ഒന്നാക്കണമെന്ന് പറയുന്നതിൽ പല വൈഷമ്യങ്ങളുമുണ്ടു്. അതുകൊണ്ടു ഞാനഭ്യർത്ഥിക്കുന്നതു്, ഭൂമിനിലങ്ങളെല്ലാം ഇതിൻെറ പരിധിയിൽ കൊണ്ടുവരാമെന്നും അല്ലാതെ വീട്, പുരയിടം ഇവകളെ ഇതിൻെറ പരിധിയിൽ കൊണ്ടുവരാൻ പാടില്ലെന്നുമാണ്. തെങ്ങ്, മരച്ചീനി ഇവ കൃഷിചെയ്യുന്ന പുരയിടങ്ങൾ ഇതിൻെറ പരിധിയിൽ ഉൾപ്പെടുത്തുന്നതിൽ വിരോധമില്ല. ഇതിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ച് പ്രായോഗികമായ രീതിയിലുള്ള പദ്ധതികൾ എന്തെല്ലാമാണെന്നു നാം മനസ്സിലാക്കി വേണം ഗവണ്മെൻറിലേക്കു റിപ്പോർട്ടു സമർപ്പിക്കേണ്ടതു്. ഇതിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു വിലയേറിയ പല അഭിപ്രായങ്ങളും എൻെറ മുൻഗാമികൾ പറഞ്ഞുകഴിഞ്ഞു.

രിക്കുന്നു. തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലെ വസ്തുക്കളെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു ഇപ്രകാരം ഒരു നിയമം ഉണ്ടാക്കേണ്ടതു നല്ലതുപോലെ ആലോചിച്ചതിനുശേഷം മാത്രമേ പാടുള്ളു. അതല്ലാതെ ഏതെങ്കിലും തത്വത്തെ ആസ്പദമാക്കി യാതൊന്നും ചെയ്യാൻ പാടില്ല. നിലത്തെ സംബന്ധിച്ചാണെങ്കിൽ ഒരു സ്ഥലത്തിന് അതായതു അഞ്ചോ പത്തോ ഏക്കർ ഉള്ള ഒരു ഭാഗത്തിനു ൨.൦൦൦ രൂപാ വില കല്പിച്ചു കൊടുത്താൽ മതിയാകും. ഒരു പാറക്കെട്ടുള്ള പുരയിടത്തിൽ ൫ സെൻറു സ്ഥലം ഒരാൾക്കുണ്ട് എന്നിരിക്കട്ടെ, അതിനു സമീപം ൫ സെൻറു നല്ല സ്ഥലം വേറൊരാളിൻെറ ഉടമസ്ഥതയിലും കാണും. അതു രണ്ടും കൂടി സംയോജിപ്പിക്കുന്നതു ഉത്തരവാദിത്വമുള്ള മേലുദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ ന്യായമായ മേൽനോട്ടത്തിൽ മാത്രമേ പാടുള്ളു. അല്ലെങ്കിൽ കൈക്കൂലി, അഴിമതി മുതലായവ ഇതു സംബന്ധിച്ചുള്ള വില നിർണ്ണയാവസരത്തിൽ ഉണ്ടാകുവാനിടയുണ്ട്. എൻെറ പ്രത്യേകമായ അഭ്യർത്ഥന ഇതാണ്. വിളവങ്കോട്ട്, നെയ്യാററിങ്കര മുതലായ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ ഊട്ടുകൂറു സംബന്ധിച്ചു വലുതായ സങ്കടങ്ങൾ അനുഭവിച്ചുവരുന്നു. അതിനു വേണ്ട പരിഹാരമുണ്ടാക്കണമെന്ന് ഞാൻ അഭ്യർത്ഥിക്കുകയും ഞങ്ങളുടെ സങ്കടപരിഹാരം പ്രസിഡൻറവർകളുടെ തൃക്കൈകൊണ്ടുതന്നെ ചെയ്യണമെന്നു അപേക്ഷിക്കുകയും ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ട്. ഇതിനൊരു തീരുമാനം ൩ മിനിട്ടു സമയംകൊണ്ടു ചെയ്യാവുന്നതാണു. ഇതും അല്ലാത്തപക്ഷം ഭൂമിയുടെ അനുഭവത്തെ സംബന്ധിച്ച് വരുന്ന സംഗതികളിൽ നെയ്യാററിങ്കര, വിളവങ്കോട്ട് ഈ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ നിന്നും ഒരു മെമ്പറെക്കൂടി ഉൾപ്പെടുത്തി അവിടത്തെ ദുരിതത്തെ മനസ്സിലാക്കി അപ്രകാരം ഒരു റിപ്പോർട്ടു ഗവണ്മെൻറിൻെറ മുമ്പാകെ സമർപ്പിച്ച് വേണ്ട പരിഹാരം ചെയ്യണമെന്നാണ്. ഈ റിപ്പോർട്ടു നിയമസഭയിൽ കൊണ്ടുവരുകയും അതിനുംപുറമേ നിയമം പരിപാലിക്കുന്നതായ റവന്യൂകമ്മീഷനിൽ ഉൾപ്പെട്ട ഒരു പ്രധാന ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥനെ നിയമിച്ചു അദ്ദേഹം നാട്ടിൻെറ നാനാഭാഗങ്ങളിലും സഞ്ചരിച്ച് വസ്തുക്കളെ ഒന്നാക്കുന്നതിനു വേണ്ട വ്യവസ്ഥ ചെയ്യുന്നതാണ് ഏററവും അർത്ഥവത്തായിട്ടുള്ളത്. അപ്രകാരം ചെയ്താൽ അതു പൊതുജനങ്ങൾക്കു സങ്കടകരമല്ലാത്തതും ഗവണ്മെൻറിനു അഭിമാനകരമായിട്ടുള്ളതും ആയ ഒരു പ്രവൃത്തിയായിരിക്കുമെന്ന് അഭിപ്രായപ്പെട്ടുകൊണ്ടും അപ്രകാരം ചെയ്യേണ്ടതു ഈ നിയമസഭയുടെ യഥാർത്ഥമായ ചുമതലയാണെന്നു അറിയിച്ചുകൊണ്ടും അതനുസരിച്ചു ചെയ്യണമെന്നു ഗവണ്മെൻറിനോട്ട് അഭ്യർത്ഥിച്ചുകൊണ്ടും ഞാൻ അവസാനിപ്പിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: ചെറിയ സ്ഥലങ്ങളുടെ ഉടമസ്ഥന്മാൎക്കു ഇപ്രകാരം പണം കൊടുക്കുന്നതായാൽ അതു ചെലവായിപ്പോകയില്ലയോ?

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI: പരസ്പരസഹായസംഘങ്ങൾ മുഖേന ഇപ്രകാരമുള്ള സ്ഥലങ്ങൾക്കു വില കല്പിക്കുകയല്ലാതെ പണം ചെലവുക്കാൻ കൊടുക്കുന്നതു മൈനർ ഇൻററസ്റ്റിനു അതു ദോഷമാണു് അങ്ങയെപ്പോലെയുള്ള സമൎത്ഥന്മാരായ ആളുകൾ ഈ കമ്മററിയിൽ ഉൾപ്പെട്ടു വേണ്ട നിർദ്ദേശങ്ങൾ കൊടുക്കണമെന്നു് അപേക്ഷിക്കുന്നു.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN: Sir, I also endorse the view expressed by several honourable members that fragmantation of holdings is doing great harm to the State and that effective measures have to be taken to prevent it. It is also retarding our economic progress. But when we take measures to prevent this, I have to submit that we have to take into consideration the special features prevailing in this State which are unlike those that are obtained elsewhere in the world. In Travancore there is no village system. Here the holdings are small and at the same time the houses are situated in separate properties. The teeming population of the State also affects any measure that we are going to adopt. We have also to take into account in this respect the peculiar industries and the professions of the people and the method of agriculture that is prevalent in the State. We have to take lessons from Europe and certain parts of India where fragmentation has been prevented and consolidation effected so well as to improve the economic condition of the people very considerably.

Now, Sir, I cannot agree with the proposal that partition shall not be allowed to individuals. If there is any proposal that the right of an individual to effect partition would be taken away, then I cannot agree with that. Allowing the right of partition for individuals we can at the same time see that the fragmentation of properties is not effected to the detriment of the family or the country. There are various measures and effective measures too for the prevention of fragmentation. So far as I know in most of the civilised countries partition is allowed. Sir, right of partition is absolutely necessary.

MR. K. DOMINIC JOSEPH: Did anybody on the floor of the House suggest that partition should not be allowed?

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN: I understood from the speeches made by the honourable members that they were not for partition. Moreover, feeling is very keen among communities like the Nair, and the Ezhava to the effect that the right of partition which they secured after considerable struggle should not be tampered with. Particularly the feeling is very keen among the members of the Nair community. Among the members of the Ezhava community the feeling on this score is not so keen. But I would submit that the Ezhavas are also very eager to see that fragmentation of holdings is effected.

Sir, there must be reasons for this difference in the feelings of the two communities. So far as ownership of lands is concerned, the cases of individual members of the Nair community who own bigger and more extensive holdings of land are to be considered. There were bigger families with large areas in possession. When fragmentation was effected as a result of partition, and that very profusely, these holdings were split up, and it is only proper that the community feels so keenly about it. In any case there is a general feeling throughout the State that fragmentation should be prevented aud consolidation effected with a view to the advancement of our economic progress and our productive capacity. Very effective measures should be taken in this direction. Eminent persons must be asked to form themselves into a body and go into the matter by studying the conditions prevailing in other countries and take such steps as to bring about a reorientation in this matter. I would submit that all the communities desire it. But the only thing is that one should go into the question deeply, thoroughly and cautiously. With these words I support the resolution.

MR. P. S. MUHAMED : സർ, ഞാൻ ഈ പ്രമേയത്തെ ഹൃദയപൂർവ്വം അനുകൂലിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു. ഫ്റാഗ്മെൻറേഷൻ—ആഫ്—ഹോൾഡിംഗ്സുകൊണ്ടു കൂടുതലായി ദുരിതം അനുഭവിക്കുന്ന ഒരു സമുദായം ഇന്നു തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ അതു മുസ്ലീം സമുദായമാണ്. ഒരാളിൻെറ സ്വത്ത് അയാളുടെ മരണശേഷം ആൺകുട്ടികൾക്കും പെൺകുട്ടികൾക്കുമായി വീതിച്ചുകൊടുക്കുന്ന സമ്പ്രദായം മുസ്ലീം സമുദായത്തിലുണ്ട്. അതുകൊണ്ട് മുസ്ലിമിങ്ങളിൽ അധികംപേർക്കും തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ പറയത്തക്ക നിലയിൽ വീടുകളോ വസ്തുക്കളോ ഇല്ല. ഭൂരിപക്ഷം മുസ്ലിമിങ്ങളും കൃഷിത്തൊഴിലിലേർപ്പെടാത്ത പ്രധാന കാരണവും ഇതുതന്നെയാണ്. മഹമ്മദു ലാ അനുസരിച്ച് ഒരാളിൻെറ മരണശേഷം അയാളുടെ സ്വത്തുക്കൾ പെൺമക്കൾക്കും ആൺമക്കൾക്കുമായി വീതിച്ചുകൊടുക്കണം. തന്നിമിത്തം ഈ സമുദായത്തിൻെറ പുരോഗതിക്കു സാരമായ തടസ്ഥമുണ്ടായിട്ടുണ്ട്. ഈ വിഭജനംകൊണ്ട് മററു ചില ഗുണങ്ങളുണ്ടെങ്കിലും സമുദായം ദിനംപ്രതി അധഃപതിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുകയാണ്. ഒരു ആറുവർഷത്തെ സമുദായചരിത്രം നോക്കുകയാണെങ്കിൽ രണ്ടു തലമുറകൾ തികച്ചെങ്കിലും ഒരു മുസ്ലീം, ഭൂസ്വത്തിൽ ധനവാനായിരിക്കുന്നതായി കാണപ്പെടുകയില്ല. ഈ ദൂഷ്യം മിക്കവാറും എല്ലാ സമുദായങ്ങൾക്കും ഉണ്ടു. കുറെക്കാലങ്ങൾക്കു മുമ്പ് ഈ സംസ്ഥാനത്തിൽ ഇങ്ങനെയുള്ള ക്ലേശങ്ങൾ അനുഭവിക്കുന്നതായി ബോദ്ധ്യപ്പെട്ടിരുന്നില്ല. കാരണം ഭൂരിപക്ഷം ജനങ്ങളും മറെറാരു ക്രമം സ്വീകരിച്ചിരുന്നതുകൊണ്ട് ഭൂമി കഷണം കഷണം ആയിപ്പോകാൻ ഇടയില്ലായിരുന്നു. ഇവിടത്തെ പ്ര

[Mr. P. S. Muhamed]

ബലസമുദായങ്ങൾ വലിയ ക്ലേശങ്ങൾ അനുഭവിച്ചിട്ടില്ല. ന്യൂനപക്ഷസമുദായങ്ങൾക്ക് ഈ ദോഷങ്ങളുണ്ടായിരുന്നു എങ്കിലും അവരുടെ പ്രധാനപ്പെട്ട ശ്രദ്ധ കച്ചവടത്തിലായിരുന്നതുകൊണ്ട് ഇങ്ങനെയൊരു നിയമം വേണമെന്നുള്ള സംഗതി അവർ മുമ്പോട്ടു കൊണ്ടുവന്നില്ല. ക്രിസ്ത്യാനികളെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു പറയുകയാണെങ്കിൽ അവരിൽ ഒരു വിഭാഗത്തിനു മാത്രമേ ഈ ദൂഷ്യം ഉണ്ടാകാനുള്ളു. കാരണം പുരുഷന്മാർക്കു മാത്രമേ വസ്തു ഭാഗിക്കേണ്ടതായിട്ടുള്ളു. സ്ത്രീകളുടെ അംശം ഭാഗിക്കേണ്ട ആവശ്യം ഇല്ലാത്തതുകൊണ്ടു അവർക്കു ഈ വിഷയത്തിൽ വലിയ ദോഷം നേരിട്ടിട്ടില്ല. അവരേയും ഈ ദൂഷ്യം ബാധിക്കുന്നതിനു മുമ്പു ഇതിനെ പരിഹരിക്കുന്നതിലേക്കായി ഒരു നിയമം ഉണ്ടാക്കേണ്ടതു അത്യാവശ്യമാണ്. കൃഷി സംബന്ധമായ സ്ഥലങ്ങളെ സംബന്ധിച്ചായിരിക്കണം ഇങ്ങനെയുള്ള നിയമങ്ങൾ ബാധിക്കേണ്ടത് എന്നുള്ള മി. കേശവപിള്ളയുടെ അഭിപ്രായത്തോടുകൂടി ഞാൻ യോജിക്കുന്നു. ഒരാൾക്കു കിടക്കാനുള്ള സ്ഥലമെങ്കിലും വേണമെന്നാഗ്രഹിച്ചാൽ അവിടെ അയാൾക്കു അതിനുള്ള സൌകര്യം ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കണം. ടൌണിലാണെങ്കിൽ ഒരാൾ നാലുസെൻറു സ്ഥലം പതിനായിരം രൂപയോളം കൊടുത്തു വാങ്ങിക്കും. ആ സ്ഥലം വല്ല വീടുവയ്ക്കാനോ വല്ല കച്ചവടവും സ്ഥാപിക്കാനോ ഉള്ള ഉദ്ദേശത്തോടുകൂടിയായിരിക്കും വാങ്ങിക്കുന്നതു. ഒരു നിയമംകൊണ്ടു ഇപ്രകാരമുള്ള ഉദ്യമങ്ങൾക്കു പ്രതിബന്ധമുണ്ടാകാൻ പാടില്ല. ഈ വിവിധ വശങ്ങളെപ്പറ്റി വളരെ ശ്രദ്ധയോടുകൂടി പഠിക്കുകയും പരസ്പരവിരുദ്ധമായ താല്പര്യങ്ങളേയും കുറിച്ചു ചിന്തിക്കുകയും ചെയ്തതിനുശേഷമായിരിക്കണം ഒരു നിയമം ഇതിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു ഏർപ്പെടുത്തേണ്ടതു്. ഈ ബിൽ ഈ സഭയിൽ കൊണ്ടുവരുന്നതിനു മുമ്പായിത്തന്നെ ഈ ബിൽ സംബന്ധിച്ചുള്ള എല്ലാ വശങ്ങളേയും പറ്റി ആലോചിക്കത്തക്കനിലയിൽ ഒരു ചെറിയ കമ്മറ്റി രൂപീകരിക്കണം. ഈ സംഗതിയെപ്പറ്റി ചിന്തിക്കത്തക്കവരും പഠിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളവരുമായ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥമെമ്പറന്മാർ ഈ കമ്മറ്റിയിൽ കൂടുതലുണ്ടായിരിക്കണം. മറ്റു ചില ദൂഷ്യങ്ങളെ ചൂണ്ടിക്കാണിക്കത്തക്ക നിലയിൽ ഒന്നുരണ്ടു അനുദ്യോഗസ്ഥമെമ്പറന്മാരും ആ കമ്മിറ്റിയിൽ ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കുന്നതു് നന്നായിരിക്കും. ൬ മാസത്തിനകം ഇതിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു ഒരു റിപ്പോർട്ടും ഒരു ഡ്രാഫ്റ്റ് ബില്ലും ഉണ്ടാക്കിയാൽ താമസംവിനാ ഇതു നടപ്പിൽ വരുമെന്നാണ് എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം. ഇത്രയും പറഞ്ഞുകൊണ്ടു ഞാൻ അവസാനിപ്പിക്കുന്നു.

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR : I am not confident, Sir, about the practicability of the aim of the resolution as I think that any effective solution is not so easy as some honourable members think. An effective prevention of fragmentation depends in my view, on 4 factors, *viz.*, the tendency of society, the kind of the crop, the condition of the soil and fourthly the extent of land available.

Undoubtedly there was a time when there was corporate ownership of lands both among the followers of Makkathayam and Marumakkathayam laws. But that condition has changed as evidenced by the various legislative enactments governing inheritance and partition applicable to different communities. Now the tendency among the followers of Hindu Law also is for separation rather than for joint ownership. So, we have to take it that the present tendency of society is for individual ownership. Such being the mass mind we should hesitate to take up legislation unless public opinion undergoes a thorough change in favour of corporate ownership essential for consolidation of holdings.

Secondly, as far as the kind of crops are concerned, in Travancore, we know that different crops are raised in the same plot of land. Let us take the common example of a plot of land, with paddy fields in the middle and on both sides with cocoanut or other trees or even dry crops. Why do we find such a different treatment in the same field ?

The sloping nature of the ground, the difference of the soil justify such a practice. In consolidation of holdings the underlying principle is to secure an extensive area or as some say an economic holding wherein the same crop could be raised at least during specified seasons. So before we take up consolidation we must decide as to the crop that could be raised there. That again depends upon soil and climatic conditions as well as water facilities. Our State is one of hills and valleys. What is therefore applicable to countries having regions of level lands cannot be of avail here.

Having regard to the extent of the available arable land how are we to fix the minimum or maximum area required for different food crops and the extent of an economic holding for each crop ? Is it in respect of cocoanut, paddy, tapioca and others ? As for paddy, for a population of 60 lakhs we have about 6 lakhs of acres of land under that crop. It works at about 10 cents of paddy land for each individual. It has been opined that it is not possible to extend the paddy crop area. Hence the ultimate effect of consolidation of paddy lands is not likely to be very fruitful. As for cocoanut and tapioca cultivation, I do not think that any appreciable benefit could be derived by consolidated holdings. In any case, in solving this problem, I think we have also to make a thorough innovation of the law governing the succession of different communities with regard to inheritance. For, generally we find that plots of lands lying contiguous are owned by persons belonging to different communities. One plot may be owned by a Hindu, the next by a Muslim, and the third by a Christian. Suppose we legislate to consolidate these. As soon as the law for

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consolidation comes into force, the existing laws governing the inheritance of different communities could very well nullify the new law of consolidation unless it could abolish the law of partition. Therefore, it is necessary that partners in "consolidation" must aim at uniformity as to the mode of evolution of their properties after their death. Further the provisions of the different laws of succession, inheritance and partition as they are in vogue now, must necessarily change if the new law of consolidation should be effective.

The House adjourned for lunch at 1 P. M. and re-assembled at 2 P. M.

OATH OF OFFICE.

Mr. A. Lakshminarayana Aiyar, Financial Secretary to Government, was sworn in.

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR: Then again if we want to consolidate, effective changes should be made in the personal law as well as the law relating to alienation.

MR. PUTHUPALLY S. KRISHNA PILLAI: For the purpose of consolidation, why should there be a change in such laws?

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR: It is very necessary to change the law for the purpose of consolidation. Suppose ten adjacent owners should agree among themselves to consolidate their holdings and suppose one of them alone is not willing. Then some law is necessary to bring his property into consolidation. Similarly if there is a decree against one of the ten there must be provision to prevent his portion of the property being sold and thereby separated from the consolidated block. So if you want to consolidate and avoid further fragmentation you must have unity in the law of succession and a change of personal law as well as the law of alienation.

Travancore is a land of small holdings. There are ever so many poor families owning altogether only four or five cents of land in which stands many many dwelling houses belonging to the different members of the family. Will it be reasonable if we enforce consolidation in such house sites? The depressed classes have their houses as tenants-at-will in the lands of charitable land-lords who also permit these poor people to cultivate small plots of land around their houses probably in consideration of faithful service that is being rendered as watchers or care takers of their gardens. Under the name of consolidation are we to evict these poor fellows and make them homeless? We have got the litigation breeding Oodugur system. As was pointed out here one or two years ago, for a property in Vilavancode, there were as many as 700 shares. How, these persons must come in for consolidation? Suppose they agree to consolidate their holdings what should be their right over the property after consolidation? Are they to have individual right or only corporate right? These are questions demanding serious consideration.

Ultimalely consolidation would lead to a system like that of the Soviets. How far that could be supported is doubtful. Further when individuals cease to have possession rights over immovable property they are likely to lose all interest in land. With the ever increasing population and limited arable land, a country like Travancore cannot afford to create a "neglect land" mentality among the agricultural classes. As a matter of fact, in Neyyattinkara and other places we have typical examples of maximum intensive cultivation in small holdings. Various cultivations such as tapioca, plantain, grain and root crops are found all the year round in small house compounds. That shows the industrious ryot makes a judicious use of his land in accordance with his needs and to suit climatic and local conditions. Sound Agricultural policy and rural contentment alike require that there should be no restriction in such user of land. In the case of consolidation only one crop can be raised in one block. So that it will become the monopoly of certain localities or groups of persons to produce certain crops. Further we cannot say off hand which crop is fit for a particular area without ascertaining soil and local conditions. For this purpose a preliminary investigation would be necessary, the cost of which will be very great. So all that can be done at present is to start co-operative cultivation in selected places and watch the progress before we embark on legislation. Something like preemption may also be tried. If an adjacent owner wants to sell his property then the neighbour may have priority in the matter of purchasing that. The price in such cases may be settled by a court of law if the parties could not agree among themselves. The question of legislation to avoid fragmentation was considered by the Royal Commission on Agriculture in India. Their recommendations do not carry us any further. They were unable to say whether the legislation needed should be of a permissive or compulsory nature. Even if it be a permissive one they would strike a note of warning that it should be in a guarded manner. If it be compulsory, the commission would limit the applicability of the law to special areas after very careful enquiry.

The opinion of the Royal Commission is entitled to the greatest respect and stands as warning to legislatures. The point is that in spite of the manifest disadvantages of fragmentation and sub-division it is not easy to devise any effective and practical solution to eradicate the evil. To hold a preliminary enquiry the expense may be abnormal and even prohibitive. After all what would be the result of such an enquiry? What I would submit is that the time is not ripe for appointing a committee and spend public money over it. We have to wait. In the meanwhile the Co-operative Department may take up the matter and select a few localities for the purpose of experiment and propaganda. If the experience we gain be hopful we may gradually extend the work to different parts of the country. If as a result of such experimental work success be assured then and then only we could think of legislation.

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Another aspect has also to be considered and that is our love towards land and affection towards our ancestral property. No man willingly parts with his land unless he is compelled by circumstances to do so. In countries like Europe, the people are industrial-minded, while we are agricultural-minded and that accounts for our attachment towards land. So the outlook here towards land is different from that of Europeans. We depend for our existence upon agriculture and they upon industry. So if we propose to take away the small holdings from a small cultivator we have to consider what would be his plight. At present the small holder raises all the crops he wants in his small bit of land. If there is to be consolidation, he has no more the right to plant or harvest such crops as he requires for his sustenance. That means he has to purchase his necessaries for cash. To me it appears that it is not at all fair to drive poor people to that position nor would it be advantageous to general welfare and contentment of an agricultural people. At present nothing more than experiments by the Co-operative Department, needs be done. I am therefore not in favour of the resolution.

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: I want to put a question. Accepting the principle of voluntary co-operation, suppose there is a parcel of land in the middle of a locality, where many of the land owners are prepared to enter into co-operation for consolidation, and only one land holder is not willing to co-operate with the others, how will the principle of co-operation be applied in his case?

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR: In that case it must be compulsory acquisition. But suppose the owner of the middle plot has fully cultivated it with cocoanuts while the adjoining plots are used for grain or paddy crops and in which case you have to pay for the trees and then cut and remove them. There will be all these difficulties.

I wish to refer to one other matter. In the opinion of the Royal Commission on Agriculture which is expressed thus: "Sub-division amongst cultivators is aggravated by the lack of alternative means of livelihood which drives multitudes to grow food for base subsistence." Sub-division is necessitated for want of other means of livelihood. This proves that sub-division of holdings, though uneconomic is a shelter for unemployment.

That is more or less the position in Travancore also. So unless we are able to provide work for all the workers, who may be affected by the proposed law there will be grave difficulty. In view of these facts I am not in favour of the resolution.

MR. K. G. GOVINDAN: Sir, the general trend of the speeches delivered in the House on this subject excepting that of the honourable member who spoke last, is in favour of legislative measures for the prevention of fragmentation of holdings and consolidation of the already scattered holdings. The honourable member who spoke last gave an opinion different from what was expressed by other members. Sir, I have great pleasure in agreeing with the views expressed by Mr. Jebamony Nadar. He advanced very learned arguments in support of his

views. I do not think it is necessary for me to go over all those arguments once again. I will just place before this honourable assembly the reasons which necessitated the introduction of a similar bill in the Bombay Legislature some years ago.

In the statement of object and reasons the following are given as the evils arising from fragmentation of holdings :—

(a) they impede current cultivation and waste time;

(b) they prevent permanent improvements being undertaken;

(c) they prevent a cultivator from living on his farm;

(d) they prevent the organisation of labour and capital;

(e) they frequently result in second crops not being grown;

(f) they sometimes send the land out of cultivation altogether;

(g) they cause enmity amongst neighbours, leading to litigation and permanent feuds;

(h) they produce a generally uneconomic situation.

MR. G. VELU PILLAI: May I know whether that list is exhaustive?

MR. K. G. GOVINDAN: I presume these must have been the chief reasons which necessitated the introduction of the Bill in the Bombay Council. My submission is that none of these reasons apply to Travancore. The penultimate one which says that they cause enmity amongst neighbours leading to litigation and permanent feuds is certainly not applicable here. The marumakkathayam system of inheritance was the chief source for almost all the civil and criminal litigation in Travancore. We know how people who were following the Marumakkathayam system of inheritance have had very bitter experience of that system Ever so many litigations, murders and all sorts of unhappy incidents have occurred due to that system. I refer to permanent feuds. Sometimes land is not available for cultivation purposes on account of such quarrels. I am not at all saying that lands must be fragmented to such a small extent that it is not convenient to cultivate the same. I do not go to that extent. But sometimes land is left idle without any cultivation. If division is allowed then it is not likely that lands will not be available for cultivation. We have seen that during the days of the Marumakkathayam law, paddy lands and others lying uncultivated. That was one of the evil effects of the system of Marumakkathayam system. Therefore, my submission is that broadly speaking none of the evils mentioned above is applicable here.

MR. S. NARAYANA PILLAI: Is there not an advantage of conserving the properties?

MR. K. G. GOVINDAN: Yes, Sir. The Marumakkathayam law has its own advantages as well as disadvantages. I do not say that all is wrong with Marumakkathayam. I do not say that it has only disadvantages. There are advantages too. We have seen that the disadvantages were more than the advantages. That was the reason why that system was abolished and a new system of inheritance has been brought into vogue. The present system of inheritance provided for in the Nair and Ezhava Regulations is the cause of the progress of those communities. Of course there are some people in every community who are useless fellows. The moment they get something in

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their hands, they at once throw it away to somebody or some clever neighbour takes it away from him. Such a state of affairs is inevitable. No legislation can prohibit that situation. It is impossible for any legislation to say that a man should always keep such and such possessions. Unless something like the Russian regime is introduced here, it is absolutely impossible to prevent alienation. I am not advocating the Russian system. If there is a horse, somebody is sure to ride over it. It is impossible to prevent that.

Sir, in Travancore, after all, fragmentation of lands is not detrimental to cultivation. From my own experience, I must say that if a paddy field is more than one acre in extent, what is ordinarily done by the cultivator is to divide it by bunds into two or three small plots of ground and then cultivate them. Cultivation is conveniently done in that manner. If the extent of a virippu land is only 7 cents, there is absolutely no inconvenience for cultivation. I submit that no detriment is caused to cultivation by such fragmentation. That is what obtains in Travancore.

MR. S. NARAYANA PILLAI: May I know what is meant by extensive cultivation?

MR. K. G. GOVINDAN: The honourable member knows what it is. If by legislation, fragmentation is prevented and consolidation is enforced, what will be the effect of that change in the present system of cultivation. Unless the Government are prepared to take upon themselves the onerous duty of actually cultivating the land, what is the advantage gained by forcing 3 or 4 people to come together and then cultivate. Even now cultivation is carried on for which 3 or 4 people have to come together.

The Dewan President spoke about the method of cultivation in Russia this morning. The honourable member who moved the resolution spoke about the ruthless repression practised in Russia with regard to cultivation. If this Government have any idea of putting into practice here things in vogue in Russia, I can well understand the advantages that could be gained by such a legislation as is advocated by the honourable member. Otherwise no advantage could be derived simply by enforcing two or more heterogenous people to co-operate and cultivate.

MR. S. NARAYANA PILLAI: Sir, I support the resolution as amended. The honourable the previous speaker mentioned about fragmentation and the meaning to be attached to it. He explained that it is usual in Travancore to divide one acre of land into many plots for purposes of cultivation. That is not what is understood by the term. I understand by that term the indiscriminate alienation of land whereby the lands pass into many other hands which makes cultivation difficult. That aspect of the matter was also touched upon. I fear my honourable friend has not correctly understood the implications and meaning of the present system of agriculture. The present system of agriculture is what may be termed the scientific system of agriculture by which alone we may be able to compete with other countries and

British India in the matter of production. The system followed in Travancore is the time-honoured system where a peasant cultivates his own land for himself. Now, the question is whether we could be satisfied with that. We have to meet the requirements of our growing population and therefore we have to get as much out of the soil by applying modern methods of cultivation as possible.

It was stated that there are various difficulties in the way of preventing fragmentation of holdings. Those difficulties exist in other countries as well. My humble submission is that Government should not hesitate to introduce methods by which the danger of further fragmentation can be avoided. It is true, Sir, that there is a growing feeling in the State in regard to that matter. Not only fragmentation of agricultural holdings should be prevented, if possible, some method should be devised to effect consolidation of holdings. I think the latter is more imperative at the present time. I think, Sir, that with the best brains in this Assembly and elsewhere and with the experience gained by legislation in British India and other countries during the last two decades, by the application of that mature wisdom gained by experiece some solution can be evolved. We need not fear that such a solution cannot be evolved to end the present difficulties. With these words I beg to support the resolution as amended.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: Sir, இந்தத் தீர்மானத்தை நான் பலமாக எதிர்க்கிறேன். இந்தத் தீர்மானத்தில் இரண்டு விஷயங்கள் அடங்கியிருக்கின்றன. ஒன்று, துண்டு துண்டாக ஆக்கப்பட்டிருக்கும் கிருஷிஸ்தலங்களை ஒன்றுபடுத்தி, பெருமித அளவில் கொண்டுவர வேண்டுமென்றும், இரண்டாவது கிருஷிஸ்தலங்களை இனிமேல் துண்டு துண்டாக்குவதைத் தடை செய்யவேண்டுமென்றும், இந்தத் தீர்மானத்தின் நோக்கத்தை, இந்தத் தீர்மானத்தைக் கொண்டுவந்த கனம் G. வேலுப்பிள்ளை அவர்கள் வெளிப்படையாகக் காட்டினார். அதாவது கிருஷிகர்களுடைய பொருளாதார நிலைமையை உயர்த்திக் கொண்டுவரவேண்டிய மார்க்கம் இந்த இரண்டு வழிகளினால் தான் என்றும் அவர்கள் மிக்கத் துணிவுடன் பேசினார்கள். இவ்விரண்டு மார்க்கங்களையும் கையாள வேண்டுமானால்—நடப்பில் வருத்தவேண்டுமானால்—மிக்கத் துணிவு வேண்டுமென்பதற்கு ஐயமில்லை. இதற்குச் சட்டமில்லாமல் இதை நடப்பில் கொண்டுவர முடியாது என்பதற்குச் சான்றாக ரஷ்யாவிலும் மிக்கப்புரட்சி மனப்பான்மையோடு செய்த வாதத்தையும், பிரான்ஸ் முயற்சி எடுத்துவந்ததையும், நமது இந்திய ராஜ்யத்தில் இந்த மார்க்கத்தில் கொஞ்ச அளவில் முயற்சி எடுத்துவந்ததையும் பேசினார்கள். தவிரவும் பம்பாய் மாகாணத்தில் இந்த விஷயத்தைப்பற்றி ஒரு நகல் சட்டத்தையும் சட்டசபையில் கொண்டுவந்தார்களென்றும் சொன்னார்கள். இவ்விஷயத்தில் எல்லாயிடங்களிலும் பொதுஜனங்கள் கூர்ந்து ஆலோசனை செலுத்தினார்கள் என்பதற்கு எனக்குத் தர்க்கமில்லை. இச்சந்தர்ப்பத்தில் ஒரு எச்சரிக்கை மட்டும் செய்துகொள்ள விரும்புகிறேன். அதாவது மேற்சொன்ன இந்த மாதிரி முயற்சிகளெல்லாம் பரீட்சார்த்தமாக இருந்துகொண்டிருக்கிறதேயொழிய, பரிசீலனை நடத்தி முடிவுகட்டப்பட்டதாகச் சொல்லமுடியாது. ஆனதால் கிருஷிக்காரர்களுடைய பொருளாதார நிலைமையை செம்மைப்படுத்திக்கொள்வதற்காக முடிவான மார்க்கம் இத்தீர்மானத்தில் அடங்கி

[Mr. M. Sivathanu Pillai]

யிருக்கும் மார்க்கமேயன்று சொல்ல என் மனது துணியவில்லை. மேல் நாடுகளில் இவ்விதமுறையைக் கையாள சௌகரியங்கள் இருப்பதுபோலவே நமது சமஸ்தானத்திலும் சௌகரியங்கள் இருப்பதாகச் சொல்வது மிகத் தவறுதலேயாகும். அந்த நாடுகளில் கிருஷிசெய்யப்படும் ஸ்தலங்கள் மிக விஸ்தீரணமும், ஆயிரம் ஏக்கர் கணக்கிலுள்ள ஸ்தலங்களுமட்டிலுமல்ல, அவ்வித ஸ்தலங்கள் சமதளமாகவுமிருக்கக்கூடும். அந்த ஸ்தலங்களின் உடமஸ்தர்களும் எண்ணிக்கையில் மிகக்குறைவாகவுமிருக்கலாம். ஏனென்று கேட்டால் அவர்களது பரம்பரைச் சட்டமானது ஒருவருக்கே அல்லாமல், நம்மைப் போல பாகிக்கக்கூடாது. நம் ஸமஸ்தானத்தில் ஜனங்களுடைய வஸ்துபாக அவகாசமானது மிக மாறுபட்டதேயாகும். தலையெண்ணி பாகமாகவும், மஹமதியர்களுக்கிடையில் பாகத்தில் 1|6 அல்லது, 1/12 சிறுசிறுபாகமாகவும் துண்டிக்கப்பட்டு, அனுபவிக்கப்பட்டு இருக்கின்றது. தவிரவும் நமது சமஸ்தானத்தில் மலைகளும், குன்றுகளும் நிறையப்பெற்றிருப்பதால், கிருஷி ஸ்தலங்கள் மேடுபள்ளமாகவும் இருந்து வருகின்றன. இவ்வகை காரணங்களால் மேல் நாடுகளில் பொருந்தக்கூடிய காரணங்கள் நம் சமஸ்தானத்திற்குப் பொருந்தும் அல்லது பொருந்தக்கூடும் என்று சொல்வது சரியல்ல. நம் நாட்டிலுள்ள கிருஷி ஸ்தல உடமஸ்தர்கள் எண்ணிக்கையில் ஏராளமாகயிருக்கிறார்களல்லவா? அது காரணம் பற்றி இவ்வகை ஸ்தலங்களை ஏகோபித்து, ஒன்றுபடுத்திக் கொண்டுவரவேண்டிய ஒரு சட்டம் வருமானால் லக்ஷக்கணக்கான ஜனங்களை அது பாதிக்குமே! அந்த மாதிரி ஒரு சட்டத்தைக் கொண்டுவருவது சாத்தியமாகுமா? அதற்காகத் துணிவது புரட்சி ஏற்படுமேயொழிய நாம் நினைக்கும் பலனை அடையமுடியாது என்பது எனது துணிவான அபிப்பிராயம். நமது நாட்டில் குட்டநாடு தவிர நெற்பயிர் செய்யும் மற்ற ஸ்தலங்கள் சின்னச் சின்னத் துண்டுகளாகவேயிருக்கின்றன. இதை விட சிறு துண்டுகளாக நிலங்களை திருநெல்வேலி, மதுரை ஜில்லாக்களில் பார்க்கலாம். அவ்விடங்களில் நிலங்கள் சின்னச் சின்ன துண்டுகளாயிருப்பது உரப்படுத்துவதற்காக சௌகரியத்தையும், அதுகாரணம்பற்றி விளைவும் அதிகரித்ததாகவும் நான் அறிகிறேன்.

நம் சமஸ்தானத்திலும் மேடுபள்ளங்களுள்ள ஸ்தலங்கள் தவிர சமநிலமான விரிவான ஸ்தலங்கள் கிருஷிக்கு உபயோகப்படுத்திவருவதை நான் ஒப்புக்கொள்கிறேன். அதையாவது ஒன்று சேர்த்து கிருஷி செய்யக்கூடாதா என்ற கேள்விக்குயிடமுண்டு. ஆனால் அந்த மாதிரி ஸ்தலங்களில் நூற்றுக்கணக்கான உடமஸ்தர்கள் இருக்கக் கூடும். அவர்களிடமெல்லாமிருந்து இந்த ஸ்தலங்களையெடுத்துக் கிருஷி செய்வதாயிருந்தால் அத்தனைபேருக்கும் தற்போது இருக்கக்கூடிய வேலை இல்லாமலாய் விடுவதுமல்லாமல் வேலையில் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கும் ஜனங்கள் தங்களுக்கு மாத்திரம் வரக்கூடிய பலன் சேராது என்ற ஒரு காரணம் பற்றியே அவர்களது வேலையில் அதிக முயற்சியோ, அக்கறையோ இருக்காது என்பது திண்ணம். ஏனென்று கேட்டால், சுயநலம் பொதுநலத்தை விட அவ்வளவு அக்கரையை உண்டுபண்ணுதல்லவா? இந்தக்காரணத்தால் முயற்சிகுன்றி விளைவு குறைவு ஏற்படுமேயொழிய அதிகப்படாது. இந்தக் காரணம் மேல் நாடுகளுக்கும் பொருந்துமோ என்று கேட்கலாம். அங்கேயும் மனிதர்கள் தானே? அங்கேயும் சுயநலம் என்பதுண்டல்லவா?

ஆனால் அங்கே வித்தியாசத்தை வேறு வழியில் காண்கிறோம். அங்கே வேலை செய்துவருபவர்கள் உடமஸ்தர்களல்ல. அதனால் மக்களில் பெரும்பாலர்களுக்கும் மனப்பான்மை வேறுபட்டதாகக் காணலாம். இங்கேயோ அப்படியல்ல. மனிதர்களுக்கிடையில் இடங்களைப் பொறுத்து சில மனபான்மைகள் இருப்பதாக நாம் அறியக்கூடும். உதாரணமாக—காலஞ்சென்ற C. R. தாஸ் அவர்கள் டார்ஜிலிங்கில் மரணமடைந்தார்கள். அவர் இறக்கும் தருவாயிலிருக்கும் போது சொன்னதாவது—நாம் இறந்துபோன பிறகு நமது தகனம் கல்கத்தாவில் இன்னவிடத்தில் நடத்தவேண்டுமென்று ஆசைப்பட்டதாகவும் அதன்படியே நிறைவேற்றப் பட்டதாகவும் நாம் அறிந்திருக்கிறோமல்லவா. அதுபோல காலஞ்சென்ற திலகர் மஹானுக்கும் அப்படி நடந்ததாக நாம் அறிகிறோம். புராணங்களிலும் ஏராளமாக இவ்விஷயத்திற்கு உதாரணங்கள் காணலாம். ஆங்கிலத்திலும் இதைப்பற்றிச் சொல்வது என்னவென்றால்—There is always a genius of the place which attracts persons—ஜனங்களிடையே இந்த மனப்பான்மை இந்தியாவில் மிக அதிகமாகக் காணலாம். மேல் நாடுகளில் இதை இவ்வளவு அதிகமாக காண முடியாது. இதை பாதிக்கக் கூடிய ஒரு சட்டம் வருமானால் அதை பொதுஜனங்கள் ஏற்றுக்கொள்ள மாட்டார்கள் என்பது திண்ணம்.

பண்டைய காலத்தில், என் அனுபவத்தில் நான் பார்த்தது என்னவென்றால் மக்கள் அனைவருக்கும் கிருஷி ஸ்தலங்கள் இருந்து வந்தன. அவர்கள் தாமே வேலைசெய்து, கிருஷியை அபிவிருத்திப் படுத்திவந்தார்கள். அந்தக்காலத்தில் விளைவுபொருள்களுக்கு விலை மிகக்குறைவாக இருந்தபோதிலும் அவர்களுடைய பொருளாதார நிலைமையானது செம்மையாகவிருந்து வந்தது என்பதையும் நாம் அறிவோம். அப்பொழுது அவர்கள் விளைவிக்கும் பொருள்களைக் கொடுத்து அவர்களுக்குத் தேவையுள்ள வேறு பொருள்களையும் வாங்கிவந்தார்கள் என்று நாம் அறியலாம் இப்பொழுது அவர்களே நேரில் வேலை செய்யாத காரணம் பற்றி, அதாவது absentee land lord, பொருளாதார நிலைமை குன்றிவிட்டது. நமது நாட்டில் இவ்வளவு சுருங்கிய இடமாக இருந்தபோதிலும் அநேக விளைவுபொருள்களை ஜனங்கள் கிருஷிசெய்து எடுக்கிறார்கள். அதன் மூலமாக அவர்களது ஆவசியங்கள் அநேகமாக நிறைவேற்றப்படுகின்றன. பொருளாதார நிலைமை குன்றிவிட்டால் நிவர்த்திமார்க்கம் co-operative basis ல் விளைவுபொருள்களை சேகரித்து சரியான விலைக்குக் கொடுப்பதே ஒரே மார்க்கமாகும். அல்லது தீர்மானத்தில் சொல்லக் கூடிய மார்க்கங்கள் பொருத்தமான நிவர்த்திகளல்லவென்று நான் சொல்லவிரும்புகிறேன்.

ஆதலால் இந்த நாட்டுக்கு இத்தீர்மானத்தில் சொல்லும் வழிகள் பொருத்தமாகாது என்று மிகத்துணிவுடன் சொல்லுகிறேன். மேல்நாட்டிலோ அநேகமாக பரம்பரை அவகாசச் சட்டமானது Law of primogeniture அதாவது மூத்த மகனுக்கு அவகாசம் நம் நாட்டில் ஹிந்து லா (Hindu Law), மஹமதிய லா (Mohammadan Law), கிருஸ்திய லா (Christian Law) என்று இப்படி அநேகவிதமான சட்டங்கள் இருக்கின்றன. தவிரவும் மேல் நாடுகளைவிட நம் நாட்டில் அநேக ஆயிரம் வருஷங்களாக இவ்விதச் சட்டங்கள் நிகழ்ந்து வந்தகாரணங்களால் லக்ஷக்கணக்கான உடமஸ்தர்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள். தவிரவும் மேல்நாட்டு ஜனங்

[Mr. M. Sivathanu Pillai.]

களுக்கு விவசாய மனப்பான்மை இருந்துவருவதும், நம் நாட்டில் அவ்வித மனப்பான்மை இல்லையென்பதையும் நாம் அறிந்து வருவோம். டென்மார்க்கில் கோவாப்பரேட்டிவ் இயக்கத்தால் ஜனங்கள் எவ்வளவு க்ஷேமத்தை அடைந்திருக்கிறார்களென்பது நம்மவர்களுக்கு ஒரு வழிகாட்டியாக இருக்கிறது. அதை ஏன் நமக்கும் பின்பற்றக்கூடாது என்று கேட்கிறேன். அதனால் இத்தீர்மானத்திற்கு அவசியமில்லை என்பதுதான் எனது முடிவான அபிப்பிராயமென்று சொல்லிக்கொண்டு எனது பேச்சை முடித்துக் கொள்கிறேன்.

MR. D. C. JOSEPH: Sir, நாட்டிற்கும், சமுதாயத்திற்கும் அல்லும் பகலும் ஓயாமல் பாடுபடும் ஏழை ஜனங்களுக்கு இருக்கயிடமும், உணவு பொருள்களை பயிரிட நிலங்களும் கொடுக்கக்கூடாது என்று அவர்களைத் துரத்தியடிக்க ஒரு தீர்மானம் இந்தசபை முன்னால் வந்திருக்கிறது. அதை நான் பலமாய் எதிர்க்கிறேன். நரிகளுக்கும் மற்ற மிருகங்களுக்கும் நாட்டிலும் காட்டிலும் வசிக்கக் குகைகளும், இடமும் உண்டு. பறவைகளுக்கு மரங்களில் கூடுகளுண்டு. பாம்புகளுக்குப் புற்றுகளும் புதர்களுமுண்டு. ஆனால் என் அருமை சகோதரர்கள்—காயலோரங்களிலும், கடலோரங்களிலும், மலையோரங்களிலும் வசிக்கும் சகோதரர்களுக்கு இனிமேல் இடம் கொடுக்கக்கூடாது என்றுதான் இந்தத் தீர்மானத்தின் அர்த்தம். நவநாகரீகமான பட்டணங்களில் நாம் வசித்துக் கொண்டு, நமது ஏழை சகோதரர்களுக்கு இடம்கொடுக்கக் கூடாது என்றும், உள்ள சிறிய பூமிகளையும் பிடுங்கவேண்டுமென்று சொல்வது எளியோர், ஏழைகள் உலகத்தில் வாழக்கூடாது என்பது அர்த்தமாகும். நமக்கு ஏராளமாக பூமிகளிருக்கின்றன. ஆனால் நமக்காகப்பாடுபடுபவர்களிடம் துண்டு துண்டாகச் சிறிய பூமிகள் உண்டு. அப்பூமிகளில் அவர்களோடு பாடுபட்டு, தங்களது ஜீவிதத்தைக் கழித்துவருகிறார்கள். மேலும் இச்சிறு பூமிகளை பண்படுத்தவும், உரம், குழை முதலியன சேகரிக்கவும் அவர்களுக்கு அதிகச்செலவில்லை. ஆனால் தங்களது உழைப்பினால் நல்ல பலனை அடைந்துவருகிறார்கள். மேலும் இவ்வேழை மக்கள் தான் நமக்காகவும் பாடுபடுகிறார்கள். மேலும் இத்தீர்மானத்தினால் ஏழை மக்களிடமுள்ள துண்டு பூமிகளை பிடுங்கிக் கொள்ளவும், அவர்கள் மேலும்தங்கள் உழைப்பினால் சிறிய பூமிகளை வாங்கமுடியாமலும் செய்து அவ்வகுப்பினரை ஒழிப்பதற்கு இடம் கொடுப்பதாகும். நமது ராஜ்யம் தர்மராஜ்யம். நமது காருண்யம் பொருந்திய மஹாராஜாவும் அவர்களது கவர்மெண்டும் இத்தீர்மானத்தை ஒருநாளும் ஆதரிக்கமாட்டார்கள் என்று நம்புகிறேன். இந்தத்தீர்மானத்தை ஏழைகளின் நலத்திற்காக நாம் எதிர்க்கவேண்டும். நாஞ்சினாட்டில பூமியில்லாமல் அநேகம் குடும்பங்கள் தவிக்கின்றன. இந்த வேலையில்லாத்திண்டாட்டத்தில் ஏதாவது கிருஷிசெய்து பிழைக்கலாமென்றால் அதற்கு பூமி கிடையாது. தனவந்தர்கள் ஏராளமாக பூமியை வைத்துக்கொண்டு, இவ்வேழைமக்களின் சகாயமில்லாமல் என்ன செய்யப் போகிறார்கள் என்று கேட்கிறேன். உழைப்பாளிகள் சிறு பூமிகளைக் கூட வைத்துக்கொள்ளக்கூடாது. என்பது இத்தீர்மானத்தின்கருத்து. நமது பணமும், பொருளாதாரமும் ரொம்பக் கேவலமாகயிருக்கும் இந்தசமயத்தில் இவ்விதமான தீர்மானத்தை—ஏழைகளின் நிலவுரிமையைப் பிடுங்க

வேண்டுமென்ற தீர்மானத்தை—பூமிகளை துண்டாக்கக் கூடாதென்றும், துண்டான பூமிகளை ஒன்றுசேர்க்க வேண்டுமென்ற இத்தீர்மானத்தை ஆதரிப்பதென்பது சமுதாயங்களும், நாடும் கெட்டுப்போகும். இதைப்பாசாக்குவதினல் எவருக்கும் அனுகூலமாகயிருக்காது என்று நான் இத்தீர்மானத்தைப் பலமாக எதிர்க்கிறேன்.

MR. A. K. KUMARAN VAIDYAN: സർ, ഞാൻ ഈ പ്രമേയത്തെ എതിൎക്കുന്നു. തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലുള്ള ഭൂമി ഓരോരുത്തരുടെയും കൈവശമുള്ള ചെറിയ ചെറിയ കഷണമായി തിരിച്ചുപോകുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു് അതിനെ തടയാനാണല്ലോ ഈ പ്രമേയം അവതരിപ്പിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതു്. എന്നാൽ സ്ഥലം ഒന്നിച്ചുകിടക്കുന്നവരാണു വേണ്ടവിധം കൃഷി ചെയ്യാതെ നാശപ്പെടുത്തുന്നതു്. ഇന്നു ധനസമൃദ്ധിയിൽ തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലെ ഒരു പ്രബലസമുദായമെന്നു ഗണിക്കപ്പെടുന്ന ക്രിസ്ത്യൻ സമുദായത്തെ നോക്കുക? അവർ വസ്തുക്കൾ ഭാഗിച്ചെടുക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു അഥവാ ഛിന്നഭിന്നമാക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു കൃഷിക്കു കൂടുതൽ അഭിവൃദ്ധിയുണ്ടാകുകയും അങ്ങിനെ അവർ ഉത്തരോത്തരം അഭിവൃദ്ധിപ്പെട്ടു വരുന്നതായി നാം കാണുന്നു. എന്നാൽ വസ്തു ധാരാളം കൈവശമുള്ളവർ അങ്ങിനെ ചെയ്യുന്നതായി നാം കാണുന്നില്ല. വസ്തുക്കൾ ഭാഗിക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു് ഈഴവ സമുദായത്തിൽപ്പെട്ടവരും, നല്ല നിലയിൽ വരുന്നു എന്നാണു് എനിക്കു തോന്നുന്നതു. കൂട്ടുകുടുംബ ഏർപ്പാടു് അനുസരിച്ചു് ഭാഗിക്കാത്തതു വസ്തുക്കൾ ഒററ നോട്ടത്തിൽതന്നെ അതിന്റെ ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ കിടപ്പുകൊണ്ടു് മനസ്സിലാക്കാൻ കഴിയുന്നതാണു്. എന്റെ ജന്മദേശത്തിനടുത്ത താലൂക്കിൽ ഉള്ളതിൽവച്ചു ഏററവും പ്രബലമായ ഒരു ജന്മി താമസിക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്. അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ വസ്തുക്കൾ പറയത്തക്കവണ്ണം കൃഷി ചെയ്യാതെയും വേല എടുപ്പിക്കാതെയും ഇട്ടിരിക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു് അതു കണ്ടാൽ ആൎക്കും തിരിച്ചറിയാൻ സാധിക്കും. ആ ജന്മിക്കു് യാതൊരു കടമോ, മററു വിഷമങ്ങളോ ഇല്ല. ആളും വളരെ സമൎത്ഥനാണു്. ആ കുടുംബത്തിൽ ഏകദേശം ൪൦ ഓളം അംഗങ്ങളുണ്ടു്. പക്ഷെ അടുത്തകാലം വരെ ഏതെല്ലാം സ്ഥലങ്ങളാണു് അവൎക്കുള്ളതെന്നു് അവൎക്കുതന്നെ നിശ്ചയമില്ല. വസ്തുക്കൾ അവർ കണ്ടിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നും തോന്നുന്നില്ല. എന്നാൽ ഈ അടുത്തകാലത്തു അവർ ഭാഗിച്ചു. ഇപ്പോൾ പണ്ടത്തെ കിടപ്പിൽ നിന്നും എത്ര നന്നാക്കി തുടങ്ങിയിട്ടുണ്ടു് എന്നു കണക്കാക്കിയാലേ അറിയാവു. കൂട്ടുകുടുംബ ഏർപ്പാടനുസരിച്ചു് വസ്തുക്കൾ ഭാഗം ചെയ്യാതിരിക്കുന്നതാണു് നല്ലതെന്നു് പറയുന്നതിന്റെ കാരണം അവൎക്കു കൃഷിക്കുള്ള പരിചയക്കുറവു ഒന്നുമാത്രമാണു്. ദേവികുളം മുതലായ വനപ്രദേശങ്ങളിൽ അനേകം

[Mr. A. K. Kumaran Vaidyan.]

ഏക്കർ സ്ഥലം ഒന്നാകെ എടുത്തു് കൃഷിചെയ്യുന്നതു് കൃഷിയുടെ പരിചയം കൊണ്ടുമാത്രമാണു്. അങ്ങിനെയുള്ളവർ അധികവും ക്രിസ്ത്യാനികളുമാണു. സർ, ൧൯൧൪-ലൊ മററൊ ആണെന്നു തോന്നുന്നു, ഇന്നത്തെ ദിവാൻ പ്രസിഡൻറവർകൾ കോഴിക്കോട്ട് ടൗൺ ഹാളിൽവച്ചു് ചെയ്ത പ്രസംഗത്തിൽ പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുള്ളതു് ഭൂമി കുറേശെ കുറേശയായി ഭാഗിച്ചു കൃഷി ചെയ്താലെ കൃഷി അഭിവൃദ്ധിപ്പെടുകയുള്ളൂ എന്നാണു്. അപ്പോൾ വേറൊരു കാര്യം കൂടി അദ്ദേഹം അന്നു് പറയുകയുണ്ടായി. നമ്മുടെ സകല കഴിവുകളേയും കൃഷി വിഷയത്തിൽ മാത്രം പ്രയോഗിച്ചു് വസ്തുക്കൾ നന്നാക്കിയെടുക്കാമെങ്കിൽ കൃഷി ഏററവും ആദായകരമായ ഒരു തൊഴിലായി തീരുമെന്നും അദ്ദേഹം പ്രസ്താവിച്ചതായിരിക്കുന്നു.

PRESIDENT : Does the hon. member refer to the Calicut Provincial Conference 1915?

MR. A. K. KUMARAN VAIDYAN : മലബാർ ജില്ലാകാൺഗ്രസിൽ അദ്ധ്യക്ഷം വഹിച്ചുകൊണ്ടു ചെയ്ത പ്രസംഗത്തെപ്പററിയാണു് ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞതു്.

PRESIDENT : That is in 1915.

MR. A. K. KUMARAN VAIDYAN : കൃഷിക്കാര്യത്തിൽ അത്രമാത്രം ജാഗ്രൂകനായിരിക്കുന്ന ഒരു ഭരണമേധാവിയുള്ളപ്പോൾ കൃഷിയെ അഭിവൃദ്ധിപ്പെടുത്തുന്നതിനുള്ള സകല സാഹചര്യങ്ങളും ഇവിടെയുണ്ടു്. ഒന്നായികിടക്കുന്ന സ്ഥലത്താണോ, അതോ, ഛിന്നഭിന്നമായിക്കിടക്കുന്ന സ്ഥലത്താണോ കൃഷി അഭിവൃദ്ധിപ്പെട്ടുവരുന്നതെന്നുള്ളതു് ഒന്നു പരിശോധിച്ചു നോക്കിയാൽ അറിയാം. ൧൯൩൩-ൽ ആണെന്നു തോന്നുന്നു ബംഗാൾ ലജിസ്ലേററീവ് അസംബ്ലിയിൽവച്ചു വസ്തു ഭാഗിക്കാൻ പാടില്ല എന്നൊരു പ്രമേയം വാദപ്രതിവാദത്തിനു വന്നപ്പോൾ ആ അസംബ്ളിയുടെ അന്നത്തെ പ്രസിഡൻറായ രാജാ സർ മഞ്ജുനാഥറായിചൌദ്രി പറഞ്ഞതു് ഞാൻ ഈ പ്രമേയത്തോടു് യോജിക്കുന്നില്ല എന്നാണു്. ധനതത്വശാസ്ത്രപ്രകാരം വസ്തു ഛിന്നഭിന്നമാക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു് കൃഷിക്കു കൂടുതൽ അഭിവൃദ്ധി ഉണ്ടാകയുള്ളൂ എന്നാണു് അദ്ദേഹം പറഞ്ഞതു്. ഇവിടെയുള്ള ഇന്നത്തെ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറുമേലദ്ധ്യക്ഷൻ ധനതത്വശാസ്ത്രവിദഗ്ദ്ധന്മാരുടെ അഭിപ്രായം കൂടി അറിയേണ്ടതാണു്. അവരും എന്നോടു് യോജിക്കുമെന്നാണു് എൻെറ വിശ്വാസം. ഗവണ്മെൻറു് ഇതൊരു നിയമമാക്കുകയാണെങ്കിൽ, മററു പല സമുദായങ്ങൾക്കും ഇതുകൊണ്ടു് ദോഷം വരും. ഞാൻ ഉൾപ്പെട്ട ഈഴവസമുദായത്തിൻെറ നിലനോക്കിയാൽ

വസ്തു ഭാഗിച്ചിട്ടതു നിമിത്തം അവർ നന്നാകുകയാണു് ചെയ്തതു്. ആരും കീഴ്പോട്ടു പോകുന്നില്ല. ഇക്കാരണങ്ങളാൽ ഞാൻ ഈ പ്രമേയത്തെ എതിർക്കുന്നു.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN : സർ, ഇന്നത്തെ തിരുവിതാംകൂറിന്റെ നിലക്കു് ഈ പ്രമേയത്തെ അനുകൂലിപ്പാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ലാതെയാണിരിക്കുന്നതു്. തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ ജനങ്ങൾക്കു തമ്മിൽ തമ്മിൽ വേണ്ട വിധം വിശ്വാസമില്ലാതിരിക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു് യോജിച്ചു പ്രവർത്തിക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള സാധ്യത വളരെ കുറവാണു. അതിനാൽ വസ്തുക്കൾ പലരുടെതു ഒന്നായി കൃഷിചെയ്യുന്ന കാര്യം അത്ര എളുപ്പമല്ല. എന്റെ സ്നേഹിതൻ മി. കുമാരൻ വൈദ്യൻ പറഞ്ഞതുപോലെ കൂട്ടുകുടുംബമായി താമസിക്കുന്നവരുടെ വസ്തുക്കൾ ക്ഷീണിച്ചു കിടക്കുന്നതായി അതെ ആദായം കുറവായി കാണുന്നു. ആളോഹരി ഭാഗം നിമിത്തം പല ദോഷങ്ങളും ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നു് എനിക്കറിയാം. എന്നാൽ പല ഗുണങ്ങളും ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുണ്ടു്. ഭാഗം കഴിഞ്ഞാൽ പ്രയത്നിക്കുന്നവർ നന്നാകും, ഒരു കുടുംബം ഭാഗിച്ചാൽ ഏതാനും അംഗങ്ങൾ നശിച്ചുപോകുന്നതായും മററുള്ളവർ നന്നാകുന്നതായും നാം കാണുന്നുണ്ടല്ലോ. ഏതാനും ശാഖകൾ ഇങ്ങനെ നന്നാകുകയും ഏതാനും ശാഖകൾ നശിച്ചുംവരുന്നതു് വസ്തുക്കൾ ഭാഗിച്ചതു കൊണ്ടുള്ള ദോഷമല്ല. ജോലി ചെയ്യുന്നതിലും ചെയ്യിക്കുന്നതിലും ഉള്ള പരിചയക്കുറവും ദുരഭിമാനവും ആണു്. പ്രയത്നിക്കുന്നവരും പ്രയത്നിച്ചു വരുന്നവരും നന്നാകും. അല്ലാത്തവർ അധഃപതിക്കും. പ്രകൃതിയുടെ തത്വവും അതു തന്നെയാണു്. ഒരച്ഛന്റെയും ഒരമ്മയുടെയും മക്കളായിരുന്നാലും എല്ലാവരും ഒന്നുപോലെ നന്നായി കാണുന്നില്ല. ജായിൻറ സ്റ്റാക്കു കമ്പനിയുടെ വകയായി നടത്തുന്നതും വ്യക്തിപരമായി നടത്തുന്നതുമായ റബ്ബർ തോട്ടങ്ങളെയും മററു കൃഷികളെയും നോക്കിയാൽ ഈ വസ്തുത തെളിവാകുന്നതാണു്. വ്യക്തികൾ നടത്തുന്ന തോട്ടങ്ങളിൽ നിന്നാണു് കൂടുതൽ ആദായം ലഭിക്കുന്നതെന്നു അനുഭവം തെളിയിക്കുന്നു. ഇന്നത്തെ നായർ റെഗുലേഷനൊ ഈഴവ റെഗുലേഷനൊ നംപൂരിമാരെയും ക്ഷത്രിയരെയും വെള്ളാളരെയും എന്നു വേണ്ട ഏതൊരു സമുദായത്തിനും ഉള്ള നിയമങ്ങൾ കുടുംബങ്ങൾ ഭാഗിക്കണമെന്നു നിർബന്ധിയ്ക്കുന്നില്ല. എന്നാൽ ഭാഗിക്കണമെന്നാഗ്രഹിക്കുന്നവക്കു് ഭാഗിക്കാൻ അനുവദിക്കുക മാത്രമാണു ചെയ്യുന്നതു്. അതിനാൽ വസ്തുവകകൾ ഭാഗിച്ചു കൂടെന്നു് ഒരു നിയമം ഉണ്ടാക്കേണ്ടതു വളരെ ആലോചിച്ചു് ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥാനുദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരടങ്ങിയ ഒരു കമ്മററി അവധാനപൂർവ്വം ചിന്തിച്ചു നടപ്പിൽ വരുത്തേണ്ട ഒരു കാര്യമാണു്. ഭാഗം ചെയ്യാതിരിക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു് കൊ

[Mr. K. P. Kochukora Tharakan.]

ലപാതകം വരെ നടത്തിയിട്ടുള്ള കുഡുംബങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടു. എല്ലാപേർക്കും സ്വാതന്ത്ര്യേച്ഛ വന്നതോടുകൂടി ഓരോരുത്തർക്കും പ്രത്യേകമായി താമസിക്കണമെന്നും എന്റെ ഭാര്യ എന്റെ കുട്ടി എന്ന ചിന്തയോടെ അവർക്കു വേണ്ടി പ്രയത്നിക്കണമെന്നും ഒരു വിചാരം പരക്കെ ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുണ്ട്. ഈ വിചാരം മാറി പൊതുവായ ഒരു വിചാരം 'ഇതു എന്റെ രാജ്യത്തിന്റെ കാര്യമാണു എന്റെ നാട്ടിന്റെ കാര്യമാണു എന്റെ കുഡുംബത്തിന്റെ കാര്യമാണു, എന്ന വിചാരം എക്കാലത്തു ആളുകൾക്കുണ്ടാകുന്നുവോ, അന്നേ ഭാഗിക്കാൻ പാടില്ല എന്നു വ്യവസ്ഥ ചെയ്യുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു പ്രയോജനമുള്ളു. അങ്ങിനെയുള്ള ഒരു വിചാരം അടുത്തകാലത്തുണ്ടാകുമെന്നു എനിക്കുതോന്നുന്നില്ല. അതിനാൽ ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ ഭാഗവ്യവസ്ഥയെ തടയുന്നതു ഗുണത്തിനുപകരം ദോഷഫലമായിരിക്കും ഉണ്ടാകാനിടയുള്ളതു്. നായർ റെഗുലേഷന്റെ ആരംഭകാലത്തു് ഒരാൾ അതിന്റെ പ്രയോക്താവായ മി. ചങ്ങനാശേരി പരമേശ്വരൻപിള്ളയോടു് ഇങ്ങനെ ചോദിക്കുകയുണ്ടായി.

"നായർ കുഡുംബങ്ങളെല്ലാം ഭാഗിച്ചു ഛിന്നഭിന്നമാക്കിയാൽ ഇപ്പോഴുള്ള സാമ്പത്തിക ശക്തിക്കു ക്ഷീണം തട്ടുകയില്ലേ" ഇതിനു മി. ചങ്ങനാശേരി പറഞ്ഞതു്, പത്തോ ഇരുപതോ കൊല്ലത്തേക്കു നായന്മാർ അധ:പതിച്ചു പോകുന്നതായി കണ്ടേക്കാം. എന്നാൽ അതിനു ശേഷം അവർ ക്രിസ്ത്യാനികളെപ്പോലെ അഭിവൃദ്ധിപ്പെട്ടു വരുമെന്നെനിക്കു നിശ്ചയമുള്ളതാണു്. ഇതുവരെ അവർ അധ:പതിച്ചു വരുന്നതായി കണ്ടിരുന്നു എങ്കിലും ഇപ്പോൾ അവർ അഭിവൃദ്ധിപ്പെടുവാൻ തുടങ്ങിയിരിക്കുകയാണെന്നു കാണാം. ഒന്നിച്ചു കൃഷി ചെയ്യുക എന്നു പറയുമ്പോൾ വളം ഇടുകയും മററു കൃഷിക്കാവശ്യമായി ചെയ്യേണ്ട ജോലികളും ഓരോരുത്തർക്കുമുള്ളതാണല്ലോ. അതു, ചിലപ്പോൾ, യുദപ്പള്ളിയിലെ പെരുനാളിനു പനിനീരു കൊണ്ടുവന്നതു പോലെയിരിക്കും. ഒരാൾ വിചാരിച്ചു എല്ലാവരും പനിനീരുകൊണ്ടു വരുമെന്നു, അതുകൊണ്ടു് ഞാൻ പച്ചവെള്ളം കൊണ്ടുപോയാലും മററുള്ളവർ കൊണ്ടു വന്നൊഴിക്കുന്ന പാത്രത്തിൽ ഒരു കുപ്പി വെള്ളം ചേർന്നാൽ അതറികയില്ലെന്നുവച്ചു അയാൾ പച്ചവെള്ളം കൊണ്ടുപോയി. എല്ലാവരും അങ്ങിനെ വിചാരിച്ചു പച്ചവെള്ളംതന്നെ പനിനീരിനു പകരം കൊണ്ടുപോയി അതിനായി വെച്ചിരുന്ന ഭരണിയിൽ ഒഴിച്ചു. ഒടുവിൽ പനിനീർ ആവശ്യത്തിനു പള്ളിയധികാരികൾ എടുത്തു നോക്കിയപ്പോൾ ആണു് മനസ്സിലായതു. ആളുകൾ കൊണ്ടുവന്നതു പനിനീർ അല്ല വെള്ളമാണെന്നു്. അതുപോലെ ഇക്കാര്യത്തിലും

തമ്മിൽ തമ്മിൽ പീട്ടുണ്ടാകുക ആരും വേണ്ടതുപോലെ വളം ചേർക്കാതെ കൃഷി നശിക്കുന്ന കാലത്തല്ലാതെ ഒന്നിച്ചുള്ള കൃഷിയും മററും സാദ്ധ്യമല്ല.

ഇപ്പോൾ ഭാഗിക്കണമെന്നു ആരെങ്കിലും ഏതെങ്കിലും നിയമി നിർബന്ധിക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ ? വേണമെങ്കിൽ ഭാഗത്തിൽ നിന്നും ഒഴിയാനുള്ള വ്യവസ്ഥകളും, നിയമത്തിലുണ്ടു. ഒരു നിർബന്ധവുമില്ലെങ്കിലും ഭാഗിക്കുന്നതാണു നല്ലതെന്നു കണ്ടാൽ ഭാഗിച്ചുകൊള്ളും എന്നുമാത്രമേയുള്ളു. ഭാഗിക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു ഗുണമില്ലെന്നു കണ്ടാൽ ഭാഗിക്കാതിരിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യാൻ നിയമ തടസ്സമില്ല. എന്റെ ഒരു മാന്യസ്നേഹിതൻ പറഞ്ഞതുപോലെ കൃസ്ത്യാനികൾക്കു വല്ല ഉയർച്ചയും ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ അതവരുടെ ഭാഗവ്യവസ്ഥകൊണ്ടുണ്ടായതാണ്. തനിക്കു മാനമായി ജീവിക്കണമെന്നു വിചാരമുള്ളവനും വേല ചെയ്യുന്നവനും ചെയ്യിക്കുന്നവനും ആയ ഏതൊരാളിനും ഭാഗവ്യവസ്ഥ ഒരിക്കലും പ്രതികൂലമാകുകയില്ല. അതവനെ ഗുണപ്പെടുത്തുകയേയുള്ളു. ഏതായാലും ഭാഗവ്യവസ്ഥ വേണമോ വേണ്ടയോ എന്നുള്ളതിനെപ്പററി അവധാനപൂർവ്വം ചിന്തിക്കുവാൻ ഉദ്യോഗരനുദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരടങ്ങിയ ഒരു കമ്മററിയെ നിയമിച്ചുംവേണ്ട വിധത്തിൽ ചർച്ച ചെയ്തതിന്റെ ശേഷം പത്രങ്ങളിൽ പരസ്യപ്പെടുത്തി പൊതുജനാഭിപ്രായം അറിഞ്ഞുകൊണ്ടു വേണമെന്നാണു എനിക്കു വീണ്ടും പറയാനുള്ളതു്.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI : ആ കമ്മററി പല സ്ഥലങ്ങളിലും സഞ്ചരിക്കണമെന്നു മെമ്പർക്കു അഭിപ്രായമുണ്ടോ ?

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN : അതു നിശ്ചയിക്കേണ്ടതു ഞാനല്ല. അങ്ങിനെയൊരു കമ്മററിയെ നിയമിക്കുന്ന പക്ഷം ആ കമ്മററിക്കാരാണു അതാലോചിക്കുന്നതു. എന്റെ സ്വന്തം അഭിപ്രായം പറയുകയാണെങ്കിൽ എങ്ങും സഞ്ചരിക്കണ്ട. ഒരിടത്തിരുന്നുകൊണ്ടു ഇതിനെപ്പററി വേണ്ട വിധം ചർച്ച ചെയ്താൽ മതി എന്നാണ്.

MR. D. FRANCIS : Sir, *இந்தத் தீர்மானத்தை எதிர்க்கிறேன். நிலங்களைப் பெரியதாக வைக்கிறதில் ரொம்ப நஷ்டமுண்டு. குறைந்த வஸ்து உள்ளவர்களுக்கு சின்னச் சின்ன நிலங்களிருக்கிறது மிகவும் சௌகரியம். இப்படிப்பட்டவர்களுக்கு, கன்றுகாலிகள் சுருக்கமாயிருக்கும். இதைக் கொண்டு பெரிய பெரிய நிலங்களை உழுது பருவப்படுத்த முடியாது. பெரிய நிலங்களுக்கு தகுந்தபடி உரம் போடவும் அப்படிப் பட்டவர்களால் சாதிக்காது. குழை, உரம் முதலியவைகள் அவர்களது வஸ்துவிலிருந்து தகுந்தபடி கிடைக்காது. பெரிய நிலங்களை மரம் அடித்து லெவல்படுத்துகிறது பிரயாசமான காரியம். ஒரு ஏக்கர் நிலத்தில் ஒரு அற்றத்தில் அரையிஞ்சு வெள்ளமும், வேறேயிடத்தில் இரண்டு இஞ்சு*

[Mr. D. Francis]

வெள்ளமும் மற்றயிடங்களில் வெள்ளம் இல்லாமலும் இருக்கும். இந்தக் குற்றத்தினால் ஒரு நாளும் வயலிலிருந்து களை நீங்குகிறதில்லை. இதனால் பயிர் ஓரிடத்தில் வளர்ந்தும் வேறொருயிடத்தில் குறுகியும் மற்றயிடங்களில் வெளுத்தும் போய்விடும். கிருஷி செய்கிறதில் வயல் நிரத்துகிறதுதான் பெரிய வேலை. வயல் மட்டப்படவில்லையானால் இதில் என்ன வேலைசெய்தாலும் பிரயோஜனமில்லை. சின்ன நிலங்களை சேர்த்தியாய் மட்டப்படுத்த முடியும். அதனால் தண்ணீர் மட்டமாய் நிற்கும். குழையும், உரமும் எளியவர்களாயிருந்தாலும் நிறையப் போட முடியும். இது தென் திருவாங்கூருக்கு ஏற்ற நடப்பு. மற்றயிடங்களிலும் இப்படியே இருக்கும். அதனால் சின்னச் சின்ன வஸ்துக்களை இல்லாமலாக்க வேண்டும் என்கிற இந்தப் பிரமாணத்தை நான் பலமாய் எதிர்க்கிறேன்.

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: Sir, the importance of the resolution moved by the honourable member Mr. G. Velu Pillai cannot be overstressed. In a country like Travancore which is predominently agricultural in nature, it is a sad feature, Sir, thanks to the enactment of the Nair Act, the Ezhava Act, the Vellala Act and so on and so forth, that land has been cut up, sub-divided, fragmented and scattered. As was said by the mover of the motion in his opening remarks the economic survey conducted along with the last census operation showed that 62.5 per cent of the holdings were less than two acres in extent and 38 per cent of the holdings were less than one acre in extent. The situation has further been rendered worse on account of the scattered and fragmented nature of these holdings. As one who knows the situation in Central Travancore where we have got fairly extensive land, the fragmentation has gone on to such an extent that the ownership is confined to 10 and 5 cents and even less with the result that there is often litigation about the shifting of boundaries. It is impossible to introduce labour-saving devices in these small holdings. A multiplicity of varieties of seeds are being used and methods employed are unscientific and uneconomic with the consequence that the yield is very low. Often times the crops are afflicted with pests and diseases. Therefore, the statement made by some of the honourable members here that it is better to leave the small fragmented bits of land as they are, is absolutely unacceptable. I must join issue with the remarks made by the honourable members Mr. K. G. Govindan and Mr. M. Sivathanu Pillai and a few others that in the matter of scientific cultivation it will be possible to get more yield from the land if the holdings are left as they are in small bits. That observation is incorrect. On the other hand if these isolated bits of lands are put together and if according to a plan better ploughing, timely sowing and better seeds are used, it will be possible to increase the yield to a substantial extent. During the course of the discussion on the resolution one honourable member made a reference to the consolidation of fragmented holdings effected in the Punjab. Having seen the economic way of agriculture there myself during my tours in the Punjab, I must say that consolidation of holdings is absolutely necessary. No doubt the problem in Travancore from

what obtains in the Punjab is slightly different. In one village, the Kathar Village if I remember right, 1882 plots were consolidated into 377 plots. The average size of a plot before consolidation was ·25 of an acre; after the consolidation it came to 1·38 acres. The experiment went on for sometime on this co-operative method of cultivation. I know first hand that the yield has increased by 45 per cent as a result of the consolidation. So, that, the argument that is advanced that the small bits of lands should remain as they are, in the interest of progressive cultivation, cannot be accepted. Of course, the condition in Travancore is not exactly similar to that obtains in the Punjab. I know there is considerable apathy to the surrender of land in Travancore. The attachment towards law in Travancore is almost religious. Still it is of the utmost importance that in the interest of progressive agriculture the minimum size of a holding should be very much more than what it is now. Honourable members are probably unaware of the fact that the yield per acre of paddy, whatever part of the State is taken, is very much less than what obtains anywhere in the world. The same is the case with sugarcane, tapioca or banana. To obtain increased yields, the size of our holdings should be very much larger. How far it will be possible to effect consolidation from a legal point of view will be dealt with by my friend the Legal Remembrancer to the Government. Honourable member Mr. Kochukora Tharakan said that the fragmentation should not be interfered with and that the various owners of adjoining lands should carry on cultivation in their own way. This is not right. He knows that during the last season the Lift Irrigation Committee wanted to cultivate a plot of land at least 50 acres in extent. From the point of view of protective irrigation and management, the Committee suggested that experiments must be conducted in such a plot of land. The land belonged to over 120 members. Fifty members however belonged to a Co-operative Society. It was suggested that the Society members should take on lease the remaining blocks and carry on cultivation jointly. After very great difficulty that was done and the result was that the yield was very much better than in the neighbouring fragmented plots. If the lands could be consolidated, the same kind of seeds could be used, the same kind of manures applied and the sowing and ploughing done at the proper time. Such a step would surely increase the yield and thus add to the prosperity of the country.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI: Sir, I am very glad that the honourable member Mr. G. Velu Pillai has given Government an opportunity to ascertain, if not fully at least to some extent, the general view of the representatives of the people prevailing on this subject. So far as Government are concerned, it is a long time since this matter engaged their attention. The Banking Enquiry Committee which went into this question had a few observations to make. They pointed out how the holdings in the State were becoming fragmented and whether it is not high time that attempts should be made to consolidate the fragmented holdings. The Economic Depression Enquiry Committee also touched on some of the aspects of this question. Again the Economic Development Board was asked to go into this question and that Board

[Mr. Puthupalli S. Krishna Pillai]

appointed a Sub-committee whose report was forwarded to Government. They have also pointed out the necessity for preventing further fragmentation and for consolidating the existing fragmented areas. But they have not been able to offer the important matter which is necessary for the drafting of a legislation on the subject. The standard of economic holdings varies with different countries and different parts of the same country. For instance what is an economic holding in Madras would not be considered to be a proper economic holding for Travancore. The conditions prevailing in the two places are entirely different. The Economic Development Board has not cared to offer their remarks on the question as to what is an economic holding. I was myself present at some of the deliberations of that Sub-committee and I found really the difficulty of making a fair estimate of what would constitute an economic holding so far as this State is concerned. They have therefore left the question undecided. I thought that I would get some suggestion from some honourable member of this House as to what would be the area of an economic holding so far as this State is concerned. But I was not able to get any idea from any honourable member as to what he considered to be an economic holding. There is, as pointed out by some honourable members, the problem of house sites. Unlike in British India or for that matter, any other part of India we have a peculiar method of segregation. The idea of living in close proximity to another is obnoxious to the sentiments of the ordinary Travancorean. He wants a plot of ground of his own. It does not matter if it is only 25 cents. He wants his own cow shed, his own well and his own cattle. Whatever may be the extent of land, he would operate on that. He wants an exclusiveness so far as his domestic life is concerned. That has necessitated the complete disintegration of all sites fitted for dwelling purposes and, as was suggested here, that is a habit, which we would stick to even unto death. It is not possible to induce to give up one's homestead and take up another. He will very often be remembering of his ancestors that lived there and whose house lie buried underneath some jack tree or entombed in some small shed and installed in some corner of the compound.

He sticks on to it like anything. The idea of his being expelled from his house is totally repugnant to him. The ideas of the prestige and responsibility arising from the ancientness of our homes are so much ingrained in us that any proposal which, in spite of its approbation by all civilised States, and our own conviction that it will promote the economic interests of the people, would meet with disapproval from us. At least, that is my opinion. Any one of us will object to any measure which will operate as a compulsion on the part of any one person to give up his homestead or home farm land. That I concede. When Government came to the conclusion on the various reports that they have been receiving that it is high time that fragmentation should be prevented and consolidation should be effected, the Dewan-President whose insight into these matters is so great and whose experience is so immense that any opinion which he might form will be beyond reproach made it known that he was satisfied that steps should be taken for that

purpose. But the difficulty was, whether anything could be done with regard to these homesteads, whether any scheme of consolidation could be adumberated which would necessitate, the small holder being compelled to give up his homestead. Immediately, there will be protests all over the State that it is an attempt of the majority to extinguish the economic life of the minority. If, on the other hand, the honourable members representing the people are prepared to assure Government that they are, as representatives of the people, convinced that this consolidation of the holdings, even if the scheme may meet with some opposition from the people, is one that ought to be pushed through at all costs, Government will certainly try it. Government are convinced that consolidation of holdings is necessary. Let alone homesteads. Let us come to paddy lands and other lands which are mainly used for agricultural purposes. Let us leave alone residential and industrial condition in towns. We need not take such lands for the purpose of consolidation. Let us confine our attention to agricultural lands. We find extensive lands all over the State which are used for agricultural purposes only. Here and there in such areas there may be homesteads. In the case of such lands consolidation is easy.

There are no lands in Travancore which are used for the cultivation exclusively of one kind of crop except, potatoes in the case of paddy lands. You will find all sorts of trees and crops grown on every bit of land. In the case of such garden lands where is the harm in consolidating ? I heard some Honourable Members loudly protesting against this. It should not be the impression of the honourable members that the idea of consolidation is to deprive the poor of the lands belonging to them to enrich those who are already rich. I can concede that in a State like Travancore the poor agriculturist seeks land as a place of investment. A person who has been able to earn Rs. 100 would immediatley go in search of one para of paddy lands and he would invest his money in that. But one para of paddy land is not an economic unit. Suppose a man owns 7 paras of paddy lands. If it lies scattered in different places it can not be said to be economic holdings. The first attempt at consolidation will be to him his 7 paras of lands in a compact block. This will necessitate dis-possession of others, but need not necessarily be deprivation, because that man who is dispossessed will get other lands, if such lands will constitute an economic holding for him. But in such adjustments one man may have to go without any land, because he does not hold lands sufficient to form a unit. In such cases it is inevitable that he may go without any land. That is an aspect which the honourable members will have to bear in mind. So far as my experience goes, and as was pointed by the Director of Agriculture our paddy lands have been split up into small pieces to the detriment of all. They are so fragmented that cultivation on economic lines is rendered impossible. If consolidation can be made at least in respect of paddy lands even if it will bring about the extinction say of a land holder, it will be to the ultimate benifit of all. If this has not the approval of the public Government will not be prepared to undertake legislation on the matter. That is why I appeal to you.

[Mr. Puthupalli S. Krishna Pillai.]

Sir, in regard to the consolidation of holdings, a sub-Committee was appointed by the Economic Development Board with directions that they should go fully into the matter. The Committee has submitted a report. There are ever so may other reports on the subject available to Government and to the public. These reports suggest various methods of consolidation and they have also suggested that consolidation can be tried in some specific places in reference to others. In the scheme for consolidation all those suggestions can be availed of. But, for this, some legislation is necessary. In the Punjab, as was pointed out in this House, legislation was undertaken. But the scheme was put into effect only for the purpose of implementing the efforts of certain co-operative societies. There was public opinion behind the scheme. There must be similar public consciousness about the necessity for the scheme. A comparative study of the legislation elsewhere shows that in some place it is purely voluntary while in other places it has some element of compulsion in it. Where the people voluntarily undertake the work the Government merely render them the necessary help. In the Punjab an enactment was passed for the purpose of consolidation. It followed certain successful attempts made by the co-operative societies formed for the purpose. In the Central Provinces also a similar enactment was passed. That enactment appears to have more of compulsion in it than the enactment made in the Punjab. The Bombay Government attempted to legislate on the matter. Actually a bill was placed before the Council. It was referred to a Select Committee and the Select Committee reported thereon. But it never went for the third reading and finally it was dropped. The projected legislation met with this fate not so much on account of the opposition of the public, but it appears that its provisions were severely criticised by the Royal Commission on Agriculture. There was more of compulsion in it than was agreeable to the members of the Commission. Their scathing criticism was more responsible for the dropping of it than any real opposition from the public. Today, there is a feeling in Bombay that some such legislation will be necessary. But no attempt has since been made in that direction.

As regards the prevention of fragmentation, Sir, it can be achieved without interfering with the laws of inheritance now prevailing. Some honourable member was heard to say that "not even one of your sons can inherit your property" if any enactment on this matter is made. But I can say that no such alteration in the law of inheritance is necessary. The Punjab Government did not interfere with the laws of inheritance of the people, the Central Provinces Government did not do that, and the Bombay Government did not propose to do it. But the Baroda Government came to the conclusion that it is necessary to do so. There are methods for giving effect to division without injuring the scheme of consolidation. Suppose you have 25 cents of land and you have five children. Under the existing law each will get 5 cents of land when divided. The more prudent of them will say 'I do not

want my share of the land. Any one of you can take it by giving money instead.' Eventually the property will be given to one. If the economic unit is 25 cents the property will belong to all the five and one will enjoy. No one will become its owner by paying off the rest. This result can be achieved either through court or by voluntary settlement. By adopting such methods the question can be solved. And so it is possible for making the necessary changes, say, in the law relating to transfer and partition without interfering with the existing law of inheritance. Thus fragmentation can be prevented if the honourable Members want it. Do the honourable members want it? If they do want it Government have to ascertain what will be an economic unit for consolidation in the case of paddy lands, agricultural holdings or homesteads. That is the question which will have to be decided. If the members are willing Government are ready. Government are ready with the necessary weapons to give effect to the decision of the House. One point that has to be decided is about the economic unit. That question has not yet been decided. If legislation is to be undertaken that question cannot be left for future decision. That question has to be considered by an expert committee. I concede that it is a difficult problem which cannot be easily solved. But the question is, is that the wish of the House and the people. On the question of consolidation and provision of fragmentation Government are satisfied that something definite must be done. Uneconomic holding and further fragmentation should be stopped. There is no doubt about that. The legal difficulties are not as great as was pointed out by Mr. Jebamony Nadar or Mr. Sivathanu Pillai. Of course they are agriculturists and are intimately acquainted with agriculture. But the problem of the agriculturists in South Travancore will not be the same in Central Travancore. In South Travancore, say 5 marakkals of land would be sufficient for a cultivator but this will be insufficient in Central Travancore. The system of tilling, ploughing, irrigating and draining are entirely different in the two places. Probably what Mr. Sivathanu Pillai said may apply to lands in South Travancore. Those things will not be applicable to conditions in Central Travancore.

As regards the question of taxation, it does not come within my province.

All that I submit is that Government are ready and willing to carry out the measure if it has the backing of the public and the honourable members of the Assembly.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: One question, Sir. I want to clear the position. The honourable member said that the Economic Development Board has already submitted a report. As far as I know they have not decided the question one way or the other; they have only made a proposal for investigation and for the allotment of funds for the same.

MR. PUTHUPALLY S. KRISHNA PILLAI: They have expressed the view that consolidation is necessary and that it is necessary to prevent fragmentation. They want to investigate the question,

MR. G. VELU PILLAI: I accept the amendment.

PRESIDENT: I think the honourable house and myself in particular may well feel indebted to the various members who have expressed their opinion on a question which I consider to be of the greatest possible consequence. For this reason, as President of this House, I allowed full latitude for every shade of opinion to give expression to the views held by that group or individual. I am also glad that the other side, that is the opposition, has been given full scope for expressing those apprehensions and those doubts and difficulties which, as they put it, were real and cannot be bruhed aside. The Legal Remembrancer, with his usual clarity of exposition, has made the position of Government perfectly clear. The position of Government in this matter is one of being guided by public opinion. This question is so important for the future of the country and its solution in my opinion that the spending of a whole day on this discussion has not been in vain.

The honourable house will perhaps forgive me if out of my experience of what has been happening elsewhere and here I place certain points of view before this House in order that this House, and through this House, the country at large might be enabled to formulate its own views to consolidate opinion and to take the requisite decision. At the risk of displeasing some honourable members who strongly objected to any reference to other countries in this discussion I might say this. I do not propose in the course of my remarks to deal with the highly evolved systems of agriculture such as those pursued in countries like Denmark, Switzerland or even Sweden. There the co-operative system, the co-operative spirit has been in active existence and has functioned for many many years. This co-operative system has been so persuasive and strong that it has transcended and overborne the natural inclination of every peasant to stick to his land, to cultivate every square inch of that land, to supervise that cultivation and to see the growth with his own eyes of every ear of grain. Those honourable gentlemen are wrong who think that the prepossession or the passion of the Indian peasant for his little bit of land is the specil characteristic of India. It is no doubt a very outstanding feature of India, and judging from my experience, it has been a special characteristic even more outstanding, of Travancore for reasons that have been so competently explained by the Legal Remembrancer. In France, in Spain, in Italy and in Switzerland, it is not an infrequent phenomenon for a peasant just to have two vine trees or two olive trees and to consider these as extra children. You can see a peasant in the morning in very wintry weather getting up and seeing if he can do anything; put a coat over the vine tree or a blanket round the olive tree. You can see him late in the night with a little lamp testing every twig to see if there is any insect on the tree. The whole family is at work with the olive tree and the vine tree as if it were a baby. And the results are patent. Now, that passion for land, that passion for one's own small holding and for every tree in that holding is a heritage of

agriculturists from the time of the first agriculturist of all. But to emphasise that aspect, to keep that position in mind, is not to give a negative to the idea underlying this resolution.

Now let me take two or three countries. Philippines. In the Philippine Island, whose climate is more or less similar to Malabar, excepting that it has a winter whereas Malabar has not and in Java where the climate is exactly the same as Malabar, except that it has got some rain every day throughout the year—in places of that type the yield from every acre of paddy land is—I am speaking subject to correction by the Director of Agriculture and those honourable gentlemen who have paid some attention to this subject—not less than thrice as much as in any part of India.

MR. K. R. NARAYANA IYER (*Director of Agriculture*): Yes, Sir, exactly so.

PRESIDENT: There the climate is the same, the system of inheritance is the same. Java was once colonised by the Hindus. Today it is a Musalman country and the Muslim law of inheritance gives vulgar fractions than the Hindu law. Not only, as my honourable friend Mr. P. S. Mohamed stated, do daughters and sons divide the patrimony but all the grandmother and grand father are all heirs so that by the time the property of a man is divided, each heir gets something like one-fiftieth. You can suppose the result. That is the system of inheritance in Java. Now the question of the system of inheritance is also beside the point. Let me illustrate. One of my friends reminded me of one of my early utterances in 1915. Speaking at the Indian National Congress held in that year at Calicut when I came face to face with the problem of land tenures in Malabar, I said so. I had a great deal to do with the Malabar Tenancy Act which was passed in the Madras Legislature in the course of which similar discussions arose.

I shall speak community by community. I shall first take the Nair community. What it has done in Travancore and Cochin is to make itself ineffective as an economic factor in the State. There are many ways of dealing with the legitimate desire of a son or daughter to a share of the father's or mother's estate. It is possible to keep the estate in tact and to divide the income. It is possible to devise a system like the Dayabhaga system of Bengal where without actual partition each member of the family is supposed to have a theoretical share and is entitled as the owner of a particular share to the income from it. It is possible to get rid of the difficulties and drawbacks of the Karnavan system by constituting the Karnavan as a trustee for the family and introduce legislation for the purpose of forcing him to submit audited accounts every year to the court and also to make provision for a petition for which you have to pay two annas or eight annas to compel the Karnavan to pay his income to every junior member of the family who is deprived of the maintenance. If that is done by the Nair community, I am sure it will be effective against fragmentation. I am not speaking by way of reproach of that community that it should have adopted that system.

There were many things which led that community to adopt that system. One of those was the irritation to produce a number of absentee karnavans who according to the junior members of the family were not only unsolicitous about the welfare of the land but enriched from their own families at the expense of the Tarwad. I need not go into all these matters at the present moment. But that was done. The result of it has been partition and sub partition until you came practically to the standard of a Mahomedan family after partition.

Now the Christian community under their law suffers the same disability. But I hope the honourable members will not misconstrue or misunderstand me when I say this. That the Christian community has shown better business acumen and has been able to preserve their property in a better manner than their Hindu brethren have done, cannot be gainsaid. All honour for that. But the difficulty arises in their case also. What is the reason for that? Now, why is it possible for lands in the Philippines or in Java to yield so much more than lands, let us say, in the Tanjore District, or in Travancore. We have nearly the equal advantages on account of the climate; we have absolutely equal advantages in the matter of rainfall. The soil is naturally fertile. If Government and the people co-operate, there are hundred ways in which what may be called manuring of the soil may be improved. It must be shame to the Indian Government, shame also to the Travancore Government that they have not been as busy about looking into this scheme of manuring as they could have done. We have been very remiss in the matter of providing ourselves with bone crushes; we have been very remiss in the way of export of bones; we have been very remiss in the matter of dead cattle bones and hides; we have been very remiss in not having made ample use of the sea-weed that is available in plenty here; we have been very remiss in the way of not taking the fullest advantage of the offal both of butchered meat and of fish. Other countries have done a great deal in this respect. It may not be well known to anybody here. I saw it with mine own eyes in the case of a Chinese household in Burma. The master of the house every morning—it sounds rather horrible to say so—visited every latrine and privy in his compound and with his own hands removed all that stuff and then went into the kitchen and removed every bit of offal that was not actually used and then utilised all vegetables that had got rotten. He collected and put on one side all these materials. He either sold it or used it. The result is that as vegetable gardeners the Chinese are the foremost in the world. I am only mentioning for the purpose of showing how manuring is a necessity. But within the last ten years, science has made great progress in that matter. Science has now by the fixation of nitrogen and by various other means made possible activisation of the soil, the growth of organisms in the soil by superimposed means making chemicals fit for the purpose of the growth of certain bacteria which serve to stimulate and accelarate the growth of certain kinds of plants. This has been made a very special study. There is another group of research workers who are now trying to cultivate fruit and flower without any soil. That is, there is a very rapidly

growing science of what may be called 'light and liquid nutriment'. In a solution containing all chemical manures, suppose you put tomato or some other plant. You add some manure in certain kinds of fixation. There are also certain colours of light in this fixation. I have seen with mine own eyes a tomato grown without a single inch of soil, or plot of earth, tomato seven times as big as the tomato grown in ordinary soil. Now, these are scientific experiments which have revolutionised agriculture throughout the world. These can be attempted but cannot be attempted in 1/8 inch of an acre. It needs co-operation. When I say co-operation, it is not that I want to get rid of individual initiative, individual enterprise, individual enthusiasm. People who can afford these manures should act by themselves. A hundred people acting together may be able to do something. If today we are faced with the problem of food supply, we can only solve it by many people coming together, not by the eradication of the Joint family system, not by the eradication of the Christian system, not by the eradication of the Muslim law. With respect to all these things, let each man have his property or paddy and get income from that and have the satisfaction of owning that all by himself and for himself. But unless many persons belonging to the different families and communities can combine together to make an economic holding, we cannot make this experiment. We cannot devise those means. We cannot afford those materials by which alone cultivation can be enhanced. I make bold to say that, if an adequate measure of consolidation of holdings and of prevention of fragmentation accepting the national aspect, can be done we can be self-sufficient as to food. Why is it that the adjoining island of Ceylon produces about twice as many cocoanut as our own country, cocoanut twice as big as ours, though the climate is not different and the aptitude of the people are not different. But there, it is run on a plantation scale. By saying that I do not mean I want to create plantations here, to have the whole country divided into 10 or 12 holdings the owners of which alone will get everything and expropriate all the lands. Let us go back when we had essentially the ancient Indian system, namely the village system, the system which still exists in some places. People have been speaking about the Punjab. What is the vitality of the co-operative organisation in the Punjab. Until recently, in the Punjab the headman of the village was the only person to whom Government looked up for the collection of land revenue. He was so to say a kind of *pater familias.* It was possible for him to exercise a certain amount of suasion and persuasion to bring people to act together. It was therefore easy to start the co-operative movement there. It is very active now. All that is due to that feature. All that I can say is that those benefits can be derived by us only when we can rehabilitate that movement, or some similitude of that movement. You must make people come together, pool their resources, and see that the best manures, the best method of cultivation, the best seeds, expert advice and other things are procurable. That cannot be done excepting in plots of 10, 15 or 20 acres at the least. Take terracing, for example. I have been speaking of paddy cultivation by terracing, at least in the lower altitudes of some of our hills. That cannot be done in patches of half an acre. It must be done as a big, co-operative concern.

When the honourable members are discussing this resolution when public opinion is forming itself and expressing itself, let the following points be remembered. It is not the intention of Government to eradicate the social structure. They are keen. No one is more keen. They are keen that the Hindu system should exist; the Christian family should exist in full plenitude; the Moslem authorities should also pursue their ancient ways. But, for economic self-sufficiency, for economic rehabilitation, the Christian land owner, the adjacent Hindu land-owner and the adjacent Moslem land-owner all have to come together for the purpose of tilling their lands together, so that the cultivation may be alike and the same treatment will be given to lands alike in character. It may be utopian to speak of this. But unless that utopia has got permanently in mind, we will not act. We will forget everything else. The imminent, the urgent, the almost painful necessity now is to grow our food in full quantities. Unless we are able to do that, there will be very little hope for us.

Now, the question of fragmentation of holdings is intimately connected with the consolidation of holdings. Fragmentation of holdings may go on until each shareholder has got only one-thousandth of an acre. That does not matter. In this connection Mr. Jebamony Nadar gave a most useful suggestion. Questions may be raised about the liability of particular sharers and as to how his property will be attached and what will take place after attachment and all the rest of it. There will be court auction and so forth. These are matters which have to be discussed and deliberated upon. But unless we in Travancore come together for the purpose 'of co-operative enterprise' I use that word in a wider sense in order to produce considerable quantities of food crops from our holdings by pursuing all the latest scientific methods of agriculture, and other cultures including those of fruit and various other commercial crops, we shall not be able to compete in the worldstruggle. Let us look at our position today. We have been relying upon Burma and Siam for our rice. Those sources are for the time being cut out. Vast tracts of China have been over-run. Scorched earth policy has been applied all over the world. For 5 or 10 years, there will be scarcity of food throughout the world. Science of manuring has been perfected, but it can be applied hereafter only at the next reordering of the world. It is all very well now for people to pinch themselves and to send all available food products to the fighting, embattled zones. But when the emergency is over, we shall have to rebuild, to rehabilitate our agriculture. During that process it will be found that very few people will lend us the food that we require. Therefore, it is essential for us to grow more food. If we have to grow more food, if we have to grow more cash crops in order to get the wherewithal to grow food we cannot go on as we are now doing, sub-dividing our holdings and conducting an uneconomic cultivation. Having said that,—I have said, I hope, sufficiently to show the urgency of the problem, Government do not want to rush the people to a decision. Government do not wish to take any one at a disadvantage.

Government, above all do not wish that there should be the slightest suggestion of a minority being catered for at the expense of the majority or *vice versa*. The co-operation of the public is an essential factor. But I fully realise that Government cannot but realise that such steps towards fragmentation, such investigation of consolidation cannot be done effectively as a Government measure. It must come from the people as a spontaneous impulse, as an outgrowth of the essence of the people, and it is in order that it may be of some little use in the growth of public opinion on these directions that I have sought to address the House.

In the voting of this matter, if the resolution is put to vote, the officials will not participate.

The resolution as amended was then put to vote and carried.

(At this stage, the Deputy President occupied the Chair.)

MR. KAVIYOR K. K. KOCHU KUNJU: – സർ,

> "൨൦ വയസ്സ് തികഞ്ഞ വിദ്യാർത്ഥികളെ സ്കൂൾ ഫൈനൽസ് സർട്ടിഫിക്കററ് പരീക്ഷയിൽ ചേർക്കാൻ പാടില്ലെന്നുള്ള റൂളിൽനിന്നും ന്യൂനപക്ഷക്കാരായ മററു ഹിന്ദുക്കളും ഉൾക്കൊള്ളുന്ന സമുദായങ്ങളിലെ അവശ വിദ്യാർത്ഥികളെ ഒഴിവാക്കാൻ ദയവുണ്ടാകണമെന്നു ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട ഗവണ്മെൻറിനോടു ഈ അസംബ്ലി ശുപാർശ ചെയ്യുന്നു"

എന്നപ്രമേയം കരുണയേറിയ ഗവണ്മെൻറിൻെറയും ദയാലുവായ ഡയറക്ടർഅവർകളുടേയും അവശജന ഗുണകാംക്ഷികളായി ഇവിടെ സന്നിഹിതരായിട്ടുള്ള ജനപ്രതിനിധികളുടെയും വിലയേറിയവിചിന്തനത്തിനു ഞാൻ വിധേയമാക്കുന്നു. എൻെറ പ്രമേയം അവശരും ന്യൂനപക്ഷക്കാരും അടങ്ങിയ സമുദായങ്ങളിലെ വിദ്യാർത്ഥികളെമാത്രം സ്പർശിക്കുകയും മററുവിദ്യാർത്ഥികളെ ഉപേക്ഷിക്കയും ചെയ്തതിൻെറ കാരണമെന്താണെന്നു ചിലർ സംശയിച്ചേക്കാം. അങ്ങനെ സംശയിക്കുന്നുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ അവരോടു എനിക്കു പറയുവാനുള്ള അതിനുള്ള സമാധാനം, ഇവിടത്തെ അവശ സമുദായ വിദ്യാർത്ഥികൾക്കും പ്രബലസമുദായ വിദ്യാർത്ഥികൾക്കും തമ്മിൽ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസ വിഷയത്തിൽ സാരമായ വ്യത്യാസം ഉണ്ടെന്നുള്ള കാരണം മാത്രമാണ്. അതിൻെറ ഫലമായിട്ടായിരിക്കണമെല്ലൊ ബഹു: ഗവണ്മെൻറ് അവശ സമുദായ വിദ്യാർത്ഥികളെ കരുണാപൂർവ്വം സഹായിച്ചു വരുന്നതു. ഇപ്രകാരം അവശ സമുദായ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസപരിപോഷണത്തിനു ബഹു. ഗവണ്മെൻറ് സാരമായ പ്രോത്സാഹനം ചെയ്തു വരുമ്പോൾ ചില ചെറിയ പ്രതിബന്ധങ്ങൾ നിമിത്തം അവരുടെ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസ പുരോഗതി തടയപ്പെടുന്നു എങ്കിൽ അതു് ഗവർമ്മെൻറിൻെറ സദുദ്ദേശം സഫലമാക്കുന്നതിനു വിഘാതമായിത്തീരുന്നുവെന്നു ഗവർമ്മെൻറ് ദയാപൂർവ്വം ചിന്തിക്കണം. ബഹു. ഗവർമ്മെൻറിനു സാ

[Mr. Kaviyoor K. K. Kochu Kunju.]

രമായ ഒരു നഷ്ടവും വരുന്ന ഒരു കാൎയ്യമല്ല ഞാൻ പറയുന്നതു. അവശ സമുദായ വിദ്യാൎത്ഥികൾക്കു വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിനു യോജിച്ച യാതൊരു സാഹചര്യങ്ങളും ഇല്ലായെന്നതും ഒരു തുറന്ന പരമാൎത്ഥമാണു്. ഇപ്രകാരമുള്ള സാധു വിദ്യാൎത്ഥികൾ മററു സമുദായങ്ങളിലെ വിദ്യാൎത്ഥികളെപ്പോലെ ഇരുപതു വയസ്സിനുമുമ്പു സ്കൂൾഫൈനൽ ക്ലാസ്സിൽ ചെന്നെത്തി എന്നു വരുന്നതല്ല. ചിലർക്കു അപ്രകാരം സാദ്ധ്യമായി എന്നു വരാം. ഈ നിലയിൽ ഇരിക്കുന്ന വിദ്യാൎത്ഥികൾക്കു ബഹു. ഗവർമ്മെൻറു മനഃപൂൎവ്വം സഹായം ചെയ്തില്ലെങ്കിൽ അവരിൽ പലരും നിരാശയോടുകൂടി ജീവിക്കേണ്ടതായി വരും. മേൽപ്പറഞ്ഞ നിയമത്തിൽനിന്നും ഇപ്രകാരമുള്ള സമുദായങ്ങളിലെ വിദ്യാൎത്ഥികളെ ഒഴിവാക്കിയില്ലെങ്കിൽ അവരുടെ ഉന്നത വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തെ മാത്രമല്ല സാമാന്യ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തെക്കൂടി തടയുന്നതാണു്. ഇവിടത്തെ അവശ സമുദായ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിനു അതിൽ കണ്ടു പ്രദർശിപ്പിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന ബഹു. ഗവൺമെൻറിൻെറയും വിദ്യാഭ്യാസ മേലദ്ധ്യക്ഷൻെറയും ദയാലുക്കളായ ജനപ്രതിനിധികളുടേയും മുമ്പാകെ അവശ സമുദായ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തെ സംബന്ധിച്ചിടത്തോളം ഒരു വിസ്തൃതമായ വിശദീകരണത്തിനു ആവശ്യമില്ലെന്നാണെൻെറ വിശ്വാസം. ആകയാൽ ബഹു. ഗവർമ്മെൻറും ഈ സഭയും അവശസമുദായങ്ങളെ സംബന്ധിച്ചിടത്തോളം സർവ്വപ്രധാനമായിരിക്കുന്ന ഈ പ്രമേയത്തെക്കുറിച്ചു കരുണാപൂർവ്വം ചിന്തിക്കയും അനുകൂലമായ തീരുമാനം ചെയ്തു ഈ സാധുസമുദായങ്ങളെ പ്രോത്സാഹിപ്പിക്കയും ചെയ്യണമെന്നപേക്ഷിച്ചുകൊണ്ടു് ഞാൻ ഈ പ്രമേയം സഭയുടെ വിചിന്തനത്തിനു വിധേയമാക്കുന്നു.

MR. R. C. ADICHAN:— സർ, ഈ പ്രമേയത്തോടു് ഞാൻ അനുകൂലിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു. ൨൦ വയസ്സിനുമേൽ പ്രാപ്തിയുള്ളവരെ പള്ളിക്കൂടങ്ങളിൽ ചേൎക്കാൻ പാടില്ലെന്നുള്ള ഗവർമ്മെൻറിൻെറ റൂളിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ചിടത്തോളം അവശ സമുദായക്കാർ വളരെ ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടുകളും മററും അനുഭവിക്കുന്നുണ്ടെന്നാണു് എൻെറ അഭിപ്രായം. രണ്ടു കൊല്ലത്തിനുമുൻപു് ൧൮ വയസ്സു തികഞ്ഞ ഒരു കുട്ടി ഒന്നാംക്ലാസ്സിൽ ചേൎന്നതായി എനിക്കറിയാം. ഇപ്പോൾ മൂന്നാംക്ലാസ്സിലാണെന്നു തോന്നുന്നു പഠിക്കുന്നതു്. അയാൾ പബ്ളിക്ക് പരീക്ഷക്കു ചേരേണ്ട സമയം വരുമ്പോൾ എങ്ങിനെ ചേരുമെന്നു എനിക്കറിഞ്ഞുകൂടാ. ഇതു് എൻെറ സമുദായത്തിലാണു്. ഇപ്പോൾ വയസ്സ് ൨൦ കഴിഞ്ഞു. സ്കൂൾ

ഫൈനൽക്ലാസ്‌വരെ പഠിക്കാനാണ് ആ കുട്ടി ആഗ്രഹിക്കുന്നതെങ്കിൽ കാൎയ്യം കുഴപ്പത്തിലായെന്നു തീർച്ചയാണല്ലോ. അതുപോലെതന്നെ അവശസമുദായങ്ങളിൽ മററുള്ള ആളുകളുടെ പ്രേരണകൊണ്ടും മററും താമസിച്ചു സ്കൂളിൽ ചേൎത്ത സാധുകുട്ടികൾ ഉണ്ടു്. അങ്ങനെ താമസിച്ചു സ്കൂളിൽ ഒന്നാംക്ലാസ്സിൽ ചേൎത്താൽ സ്കൂൾഫൈനൽക്ലാസിൽ വരുമ്പോൾ ൨൦ വയസ്സ് കഴിഞ്ഞു എന്നു വന്നേക്കാം. സ്കൂൾഫൈനൽ വിജയി ആകാനും സാധിക്കുകയില്ല. ഇതിനെസംബന്ധിച്ചു ഗവർമ്മെൻറു വേണ്ട വിധത്തിൽ അനുകൂലമായ തീരുമാനം ചെയ്യേണ്ടതാണ്. പൊതുവെയുള്ള ചില ചട്ടങ്ങളെ അവശസമുദായങ്ങളുടെ കാൎയ്യത്തിൽ ഭേദപ്പെടുത്തി അവരെ സഹായിച്ചുവരുന്ന എഡ്യൂക്കേഷൻ ഡയറക്റ്റർ അവർകൾ ൨൦ വയസ്സ് തികഞ്ഞ വിദ്യാൎത്ഥികളെ സ്കൂളുകളിൽ പഠിപ്പിക്കുകയില്ല എന്നുള്ള പൊതു ചട്ടത്തിൽനിന്നു സാക്ഷരത്വം കുറഞ്ഞ അവശസമുദായക്കാരെ വേർതിരിച്ച് അവൎക്കു രക്ഷയുണ്ടാക്കണമെന്നാണ് എൻെറ അഭിപ്രായം.

MR. KAVIYOOR K. K. KOCHUKUNJU: സാക്ഷരത്വം ഏററവും കുറഞ്ഞതു ഏതു സമുദായമാണ്.

MR. P. C. ADICHAN : ഒന്നര ശതമാനമാണ്.

MR. KAVIYOOR K. K. KOCHUKUNJU : എത്ര ശതമാനമെന്നല്ല, ഏതു സമുദായം എന്നാണ് ചോദിച്ചതു്.

MR. P. C. ADICHAN : അതു് എൻെറ സമുദായമാണ്. ഇത്രയും പറഞ്ഞുകൊണ്ടു് ഞാൻ വിരമിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

MR. A. K. KUMARAN VAIDYAN : സർ, ഞാനും മി. കൊച്ചുകുഞ്ഞിൻെറ പ്രമേയത്തെ അനുകൂലിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു. തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലുള്ള, ഇതുപോലുള്ള സൗജന്യങ്ങൾ കൊടുക്കുന്നതു ഏതൊരു ഗവർമ്മെൻറിൻെറയും — ഹരിജനോദ്ധാരണത്തിനായി ബദ്ധശ്രദ്ധരായിരിക്കുന്ന ഏതൊരു ഗവർമ്മെൻറിൻെറയും കടമയാണ്. മി. ആതിച്ചൻ പറഞ്ഞതുപോലെ ൧൮ വയസ്സ് മുതൽപോലും പഠിപ്പിച്ചു തുടങ്ങാറുള്ളതുകൊണ്ടു് ൩൦ വയസ്സുവരെ എങ്കിലും അവശ സമുദായക്കാരെ സ്കൂൾഫൈനൽ ക്ലാസിൽ പഠിക്കുന്നതിന്, എക്സെംപ്റ്റ് ചെയ്യണമെന്നാണ് ഞാൻ അഭിപ്രായപ്പെടുന്നതു്. ഇപ്രകാരം അവശത അനുഭവിക്കുന്ന ഈഴവസമുദായത്തെയും ഇങ്ങനെ ഒഴിവാക്കണമെന്നാണ് എനിക്കു പറയുവാനുള്ളതു. അതായതു ഉദ്യോഗത്തിൽ പ്രവേശിച്ച് കൊല്ലും വരെ

[Mr. A. K. Kumaran Vaidyan]

കഴിഞ്ഞതിനുശേഷം മാത്രമേ ആ സമുദായക്കാർക്കു കൂടുതൽ പഠിക്കുന്നതിനു സാധിക്കുന്നുള്ളു. അതിനാൽ അവർക്കു ൨൦ വയസ്സ് എന്നുള്ള ക്ലിപ്തസംഖ്യ വളരെ കുറഞ്ഞു പോകാനാണെളുപ്പം. ക്രമാതീതമായ ദുർഘടങ്ങൾ ഇതുകൊണ്ടു് വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിൽ പിന്നോക്കം നില്ക്കുന്നവർക്കു വരാമെന്നാണു എനിക്കു പറയുവാനുള്ളതു്.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: മററു സമുദായക്കാരെ ഒഴിവാക്കുന്നതിൽ വല്ല തരക്കേടുമുണ്ടോ?

MR. A. K. KUMARAN VAIDYAN: അങ്ങനെ ആവശ്യപ്പെടാത്തിടത്തോളം കാലം അങ്ങനെയില്ലെങ്കിലും വിരോധമില്ലെന്നാണ്.

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU: എല്ലാ സമുദായക്കാരേയും വയസ്സ് ക്ലിപ്തത്തിൽനിന്നു ഒഴിവാക്കണമെന്നുള്ള ഒരു ഭേദഗതി മെംബർ ദയവുചെയ്തു് ഹാജരാക്കാമോ?

MR. A. K. KUMARAN VAIDYAN: അതിനനുകൂലിച്ചേ എനിക്കഭിപ്രായമുള്ളു. എല്ലാ സമുദായക്കാരേയും ഇതിൽനിന്നൊഴിവാക്കേണ്ടതാണ്. ഇതിന് ഉദാഹരണമായി ഒരു സംഗതി പറയാം. സ്കൂൾഫൈനൽ ജയിച്ചു, എഫ്. ഏ. ജയിച്ചു, ബി. ഏ. ജയിച്ചു, എഫ്. എൽ. പാസായി, ബി. എല്ലിൽ എത്തി. ഒരു കൊല്ലം തോററു, രണ്ടാമത്തെ കൊല്ലവും അതേ, മൂന്നാമത്തെ കൊല്ലവും തഥൈവ. നാലോ അഞ്ചോ കൊല്ലം വേണ്ടിവരുന്നു ബി. എല്ല് ജയിക്കാൻ. പഠിക്കുന്നതിനു ശക്തിയില്ലാത്തതുകൊണ്ടല്ല, സൗകര്യമില്ലാത്തതുകൊണ്ടായിരിക്കാം. ഒന്നോ രണ്ടോ ഉദാഹരണങ്ങൾ എനിക്കു അറിയാം. അതായതു ഇവിടത്തെ പേഷ്ക്കാരായിരുന്ന മി. എൻ. എസ്. രാമൻപിള്ള അവർകൾ നാലഞ്ചു കൊല്ലത്തോളമാണ് ബി. എല്ലിനു ഒന്നായി ചേന്നതു്. അതുവരെ ഒന്നിലും തോല്ക്കാതെ സകല ക്ലാസുകളിലും ജയിച്ചുകൊണ്ടാണ് അദ്ദേഹം വിദ്യാഭ്യാസം ചെയ്തിരുന്നതു്. ഇങ്ങനെ വേറെയും ഒരാളെ എനിക്കു നേരിട്ടറിയാം. അതുകൊണ്ടു് ഈ വയസ്സ് ക്ലിപ്തത്തിൽനിന്നും എല്ലാ സമുദായക്കാരേയും ഒഴിവാക്കേണ്ടതാണ്. വയസ്സിന്റെ പരിധിയിൽനിന്നുകൊണ്ടു് നോക്കുകയാണെങ്കിൽ സ്ത്രീ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിനു ഒരു അനുലോമഗതിയാണ് സംഭവിക്കുന്നതു്. സ്ത്രീകൾക്കു സ്കൂൾഫൈനൽ പരീക്ഷവരെയും പഠിക്കുന്നതിനു മിക്കവാറും സാധിക്കാതെയാണിരിക്കുന്നതു്. ഈ ഒരു ന്യൂനത സ്ത്രീകളുടെ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസ വിഷയത്തിനു ദോഷമാണ്. എന്നാൽ ഈ വയസ്സ് ക്ലിപ്തത്തിൽനിന്നു അവരെ ഒഴിവാക്കാതിരുന്നാൽ വേറെ വിഷമമുണ്ടെന്നാണ് എനിക്കു പറയുവാനുള്ളതു്?

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN : ഇതിൽ എങ്ങനെയാണ് വിഷമമുണ്ടാകുന്നത്.

MR. A. K. KUMARAN VAIDYAN : സ്ത്രീജനങ്ങളെ ഞാൻ അപമാനിക്കുകയില്ല, ചെയ്യുന്നത്, സ്ത്രീകൾ അവർക്കുള്ള വീട്ടുകളും മററുമെല്ലാം ഉപേക്ഷിച്ചു വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിൽ മുന്നണിയിൽ എത്തണമെന്നു ഒരു അഭിപ്രായമുണ്ട്. എങ്കിലും തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ ഭാരതഖണ്ഡത്തിലെ മററെല്ലാം സ്ഥലത്തേക്കാളും വിദ്യാഭ്യാസ വിഷയത്തിൽ അവർ ഉന്നത നിലയിൽ ഇരിക്കുന്നു എന്നതു തീർച്ചയായ സംഗതിയാണ്. അതിനാൽ ആ വിഷയത്തിൽ ഇനി അധികം ക്ലേശിക്കേണ്ട ആവശ്യമില്ലാത്തതാണ്.

മുപ്പതോ മുപ്പത്തഞ്ചോ വയസ്സായ ഒരാൾക്കു സ്കൂൾഫൈനൽ പരീക്ഷക്കു ചേരണമെന്നു തോന്നി. ചേർന്നു ജയിക്കുകയാണെങ്കിൽ ജയിച്ചുകൊള്ളട്ടെ. യൂറോപ്പു മുതലായ പരിഷ്കൃതരാജ്യങ്ങളിൽ ൩൦-ം, ൫൦-ം, വയസ്സുവരെ ക്ലാസിൽ പഠിക്കുന്നവരുണ്ട്. അതുപോലെ ഒരു നിയമം ഇവിടെയും വരുത്തി എല്ലാവരും വിദ്യാഭ്യാസവിഷയത്തിൽ പുരോഗതി പ്രാപിക്കുന്നതിനു സമ്മതിക്കണമെന്നാണ് ഞാൻ അഭിപ്രായപ്പെടുന്നതു്.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: ഗവൺമെൻറിനു ഏതെങ്കിലും നഷ്ടം വരുത്തുന്ന ഒന്നാണോ ഇതു്?

MR. A. K. KUMARAN VAIDYAN : അല്ല. ആയതിനാൽ ഈ വക കാര്യങ്ങളിൽ ധനപരമായും വിദ്യാഭ്യാസപരമായും വളരെ യോഗ്യത സമ്പാദിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള ഇന്നത്തെ ഡയറക്ടർ അവർകൾ ഏതെങ്കിലും തരത്തിൽ ഇതിനൊരു പരിഹാരം ഉണ്ടാക്കുമെന്നു വിശ്വസിച്ചുകൊണ്ട് പ്രമേയത്തെ പിൻതാങ്ങുന്നു.

MR. A. GOPALA MENON : വിദ്യാഭ്യാസ കോഡിലുള്ള ഏതു റൂളിനെ ആസ്പദമാക്കിയാണ് ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപം കൊണ്ടുവന്നിരിക്കുന്നതെന്നു പറയാമോ?

MR. A. K. KUMARAN VAIDYAN : കഴിഞ്ഞകൊല്ലം ഇതിനെപ്പററി പ്രത്യേകമായ ഒരു ഉത്തരവു് ഉണ്ടായി എന്നാണ് ഞാൻ അറിയുന്നതു്. അതായതു് ൨൦ വയസ്സ് കഴിഞ്ഞവക്കു സ്കൂൾഫൈനൽ പരീക്ഷയിൽ ചേരാൻ പാടില്ലെന്നുള്ള ഒരു റൂൾ. അതുകൊണ്ടാണ് ഞാൻ ഇത്രയും പ്രസ്താവിച്ചതു്. കോഡിൽ ഉണ്ടോ ഇല്ലയോ എന്ന് എനിക്കു നിശ്ചയമില്ല. കൊണ്ടുവന്ന ഉപക്ഷേപം അനുസരിച്ചു പറഞ്ഞു എന്നെ അത്ഥമുള്ളു. അതിനാൽ ഈ നിയമം എടുത്തു കളയണമെന്നുള്ള അപേക്ഷയോടുകൂടി ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ ബലമായി പിന്താങ്ങുന്നു.

MR. T. T. KESAVAN SASTRI: സ്കൂൾഫൈനൽ ക്ലാസിൽ പരീക്ഷയ്ക്കു ചേരുന്ന വിദ്യാർത്ഥികളുടെ വയസ്സുക്ലിപ്തത്തെപ്പററി ഗവണ്മെൻറ് ഈയിടെ എന്തെങ്കിലും ഉത്തരവുകൾ പുറപ്പെടുവിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Order, order. The hon. member cannot put that question to the Director of Public Instruction now.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: Sir, on a point of order. Since the Director of Public Instruction has put a question whether such a rule exists, it will be useful for the debate to know whether there is really such a rule and the Director of Public Instruction himself will be the most competent person to inform the House about the matter.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: It is not exactly a point of order. The Director of Public Instruction may explain the position now before the debate proceeds further.

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: I thought it will save time if I pointed out that there is no such rule in the Education Code and that there is no prohibition against any pupil sitting for any examination provided that he has not appeared for more than three years for the E.S.L.C. Examination. If a person appears thirty-five times till his fifty-fifth year, I have not the slightest objection, provided the examination for which he is appearing is not the E.S.L.C. Examination.

The point, Sir, is that there has been a misconception with regard to Rule 69 of the Education Code. This rule lays down that—.

> "Pupils below five years of age shall not be admitted to any recognised schools, except nursery and kindergarten schools. Pupils over twenty years of age shall not be admitted to remain in a school unless there is special reason for their retention. The decision as to whether the reason is sufficient or not shall rest with the Director".

The rule applies only to the retention of pupils in schools after they have completed 20 years of age. As for appearing for examination there is no objection whatsoever to the upward limit. There are rules restricting the admission of people below a certain age, but there is none so far in regard to people above a certain age. But I do not think that Government have the intention of introducing any such restriction. The point that is covered by the rule is that it is not desirable to allow pupils over 20 years of age to remain in a school when they have had their complete course, merely for the purpose of staring at their fellow-pupils or creating a confusion or in any way interfering with the discipline of the school. In these days when there is so much of co-education I thought it advantageous to give a warning in time that there will be a limit to set to the age beyond which a pupil will not be allowed to go to the classes so that there may be no difficulty about maintaining the discipline and generally preserving an atmosphere of peacefulness in the institution. That is all that is meant by the rule. There is no rule, as I said, prohibiting pupils above a certain age from appearing for the examination and it is not the intention of Government to introduce any such rule.

MR. KAVIYOOR K. K. KOCHU KUNJU : സർ, ഡയറക്ടർ അവർകളുടെ അഭിപ്രായത്തിൽനിന്നും, അവശസമുദായങ്ങളെ ബാധിക്കത്തക്കവണ്ണം പ്രത്യേകമായിട്ടു ഒരു ദ്രോഹം ഉണ്ടായിട്ടില്ലെന്നു ഞാൻ ധരിക്കുന്നു. അങ്ങിനെയാണെങ്കിൽ ഈ പ്രമേയത്തെ ഞാൻ പിൻവലിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

The rosolution was, by leave, withdrawn.

RESOLUTION RE: GRANT FOR TEACHERS IN AIDED SCHOOLS.

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU : സർ, വളരെ ഹൃദ്യമായ ഒരു പ്രമേയം എനിക്കിവിടെ ഹാജരാക്കാൻ സാധിച്ചതിൽ വളരെ സന്തോഷമുണ്ട്. ഇപ്പോൾ ഞാൻ ഈ സഭാസമക്ഷം അവതരിപ്പിക്കാൻ ഉദ്ദേശിക്കുന്ന പ്രമേയം ഇതാണ്.

> "This Assembly recommends to the Government that the grant allowed for teachers in aided schools should in no case fall below Rs. 10 per individual per mensem."

സർ, വളരെ ഹൃദ്യമായിട്ടുള്ള ഒരു കാര്യമാണ് ഇത്. ഈ പ്രമേയത്തെ എതിർക്കാൻ ഈ സഭയിൽ ആരുംതന്നെയുണ്ടെന്നു എനിക്കു വിശ്വാസമില്ല. ഇതു് അനേകം മൂകലക്ഷങ്ങൾക്കുവേണ്ടി വാദിക്കുന്ന ഒരു പ്രമേയമാണ്. ആയതിനാൽ സ്വദേശാഭിമാനിയും കരുണാനിധിയുമായ എന്റെ മാന്യസ്നേഹിതൻ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസഡയറക്ടർ മി. ഗോപാലമേനോൻ ഇതിനെ അനുകമ്പാപൂർവം വീക്ഷിക്കുമെന്നു ഞാൻ വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നു. മുൻപ് എട്ടുരൂപ ഗ്രാൻറു കൊടുത്തുകൊണ്ടിരുന്ന അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാരുടെ ശമ്പളത്തിൽനിന്നും ൧൪ ചക്രം പിടിച്ചെടുത്തിട്ട്, വെറും എട്ടു രൂപയാക്കിയ ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെ നിർദയത്വം പരിതാപകരം തന്നെ. സർ, അവർ ഈ എട്ടു രൂപകൊണ്ടു് അവരുടെ ഒരു കുടുംബം മുഴുവനും പുലർത്തിക്കൊണ്ടുപോകണമെന്നു പറഞ്ഞാൽ, ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ കാലാവസ്ഥയിൽ അവരെ എത്രത്തോളം ദാരിദ്ര്യം ബാധിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുമെന്നു് കണ്ണാടിയിലെന്നപോലെ കാണാൻ കഴിയും.

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI : ഗ്രാൻറു സ്കൂളിലെ മാനേജരന്മാർ അവർക്കു വല്ലതുംകൂടെ കൊടുക്കുകയില്ലേ?

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU : ഈ വെറും എട്ടു രൂപയെയുള്ളുവെന്നാണ് എന്റെ അറിവു്. അതിൽനിന്നും കൂടി ഒരു സംഖ്യ മാനേജരന്മാർ പിടിച്ചെടുക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. സർ, വയറുപിഴപ്പിനുവേണ്ടി ഒരു വമ്പിച്ച ജനവിഭാഗം മുറവിളികൂട്ടുമ്പോൾ, ഇലക്ട്രിക് പങ്കായുടെ കീഴിലുള്ള കുഷിയൻ ചെയറിലിരുന്നു സ്വച്ഛന്ദം വിഹരിക്കുന്ന മഹാനുഭാവന്മാർ ഈ ദീനരോദനത്തെപ്പററി കേട്ടഭാവംപോലും നടിക്കാത്തതു് കഷ്ടാൽകഷ്ടതരം തന്നെ. ജനങ്ങളിൽനിന്നും പിരിച്ചെടുക്കുന്ന പണം ജനങ്ങൾക്കുവേണ്ടി

[Mr. Padiyara Joseph Kunju]

തന്നെ ചെലവാക്കിക്കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നുവെങ്കിൽ ഒരു പരാതിക്കും അവകാശമില്ല. സ്റ്റാൻഡാർഡിസേഷൻപ്രകാരം ഇന്നയിന്ന ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥനു ഇന്നയിന്ന ശമ്പളമേ കൊടുക്കാവൂ, എന്നുള്ള നിയമത്തെ തീരെ അതിലംഘിച്ച്, ശമ്പളത്തിന്റെ രണ്ടും മൂന്നും ഇരട്ടി കൂടുതൽ കൊടുത്താണു ഓരോ സ്ഥാനങ്ങളിലും പല വലിയ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരെ പ്രതിഷ്ഠിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതു്. അതുകൊണ്ടു് ഗ്രാൻറസ്കൂൾ അദ്ധ്യാപകന്റെ വിശപ്പു തീരുകയില്ല. ഇന്നു് ഒരു ഗവണ്മെൻറുസ്കൂൾ അദ്ധ്യാപകനോടൊപ്പംതന്നെ അവരും ജോലി ചെയ്യേണ്ടിയിരിക്കുന്നു. സർ, ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ യുദ്ധഃപരിതസ്ഥിതിയിൽ അങ്ങയുടെ കാരുണ്യമുണ്ടായി താഴ്ന്ന ശമ്പളക്കാർക്കെല്ലാം ഓരോ രൂപ കൂട്ടിക്കൊടുത്തിരിക്കുന്നു. എന്നിട്ടും ഗ്രാൻറുസ്കൂൾ അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാരുടെ കാര്യം അവഗണിക്കപ്പെട്ടു. ഈ കാലഘട്ടത്തിൽ, ഈ ദുരവസ്ഥയിൽ, ഇതിനൊരു പരിഹാരമുണ്ടാക്കിയില്ലെങ്കിൽ പിന്നെയെന്നാണു് ഇതു് ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെ ദൃഷ്ടിയിൽപെടുന്നതെന്നു ഞാൻ ചോദിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു. നമുക്കു ഒരു വലിയ മിച്ചം ഉണ്ടാക്കിവച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നു ഫിനാൻഷ്യൽ സെക്രട്ടറി ഇവിടെ പ്രസ്താവിക്കയുണ്ടായി. അങ്ങിനെ ഒരു വമ്പിച്ച തുക മിച്ചമുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ, അതിൽനിന്നും പ്രതിമാസം ഇവക്കു ൩൦ രൂപ കൊടുക്കാൻ സാധിക്കുമെന്നാണു് എന്റെ വിശ്വാസം. അതിനാൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റേയും ഡയറക്ടർ അവർകളുടേയും ദയാദൃഷ്ടി ഈ കാര്യത്തിൽ പതിയണമെന്നു അപേക്ഷിച്ചുകൊണ്ടു് ഞാൻ ഈ പ്രമേയം സഭയുടെ അംഗീകരണത്തിനായി അവതരിപ്പിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: I second the motion. At first I thought that it will be too big an order to Government that grant in-aid should be so high as Rs. 30. I thought that the Government is to give a grant equal to the sum which the management gives to its teachers. But I learn from my neighbour and I also remember from what the Deputy President said yesterday, though not in very express terms, that very often the management so contrives the business that the poor teacher who is obliged to shout from ten' o clock in the morning to four 'o clock in the afternoon with very little food, with very little of the cheerfulness and the comforts of life, who, when he started for school saw half a dozen children almost on the verge of starvation does not get enogh to live. I think Sir, that the Director of Public Instruction and the Government will take into consideration the circumstances that obtain in this country in the Education Department, so far as the grant-in-aid school teachers are concerned. I am talking Sir, with what I believe to be a sense of responsibility when I say that though a great deal of money will have to be ear-marked for this

purpose, an attempt may be kindly made in this direction. I am talking on this motion, Sir, because I find that the House is rather empty and I did not want Mr. Padiyara Joseph Kunju to feel lonely. Seeing the very small number of members present here, I thought that I must discharge an obligation which I owe to the House. I find the Deputy President occupying the Chair instead of the President. But I would invite the eyes of my friends to the Chair so that Sir, if one who has got a loud voice does not come to the rescue Mr. Padiyara Joseph Kunju may stand on the verge of having his resolution lost. That is the reason why I am particularly emphasising this argument. I hope Sir, that when questions like this are discussed the representatives and leaders of the great parties will be present. Yet, there are some members present and I am addressing my observations to them.

Sir, that the constructive suggestion that I wish to offer—I do not know whether there may be limitations, and I may be forgiven if I am wrong—is that it is high time that bad institutions should, if possible, be weeded out. Especially in educational institutions if the management contrives some method by which they benefit themselves at the expense of the poor teachers, if the entries in books, day books and ledgers are fabricated, if the entries do not tally with actual transactions and receipts of money and disbursements, it is high time that we cry halt to this system of grant-in-aid. I am sure that during the last few years there has been a very great improvement and I was very happy to hear from the Director of Public Instruction himself that there is vast improvement. I cannot however shake off my memory, my own experience, Sir, when I was a teacher of a school 35 years ago. The school was owned by a certain person who was both proprietor and manager. He had a very high position in the public life of the country. I went in there as a Malayalam Munshi in the first instance. It was before I joined in the Law College. The pay that was offered to me was, I believe Rs. 25. Then there was a very faithful treasurer in that institution. He gave me Rs. 18 and asked me to affix my signature for having received Rs. 25. I said—the little mathematics that I know does not enable me to take Rs. 18 as equivalent to Rs. 25. The matter was reported to the Manager who was also the headmaster. The matter was reported to the Manager. Then he called me and asked "well Mr. Velu Pillai, why don't you sign." Then I answered that I was prepared to sign, but I could not sign for Rs. 25 when the actual amount received was only Rs. 18. If that was the state of affairs in those days, what would be the condition now? He turned round and asked the Treasurer "what is the meaning of your asking him to sign for Rs. 25 when you give him only Rs 18." During all these years these people have been persisting in this practice and spoiling the profession of education. I have got very great respect for people who take up the work of management of schools even though they are unable to make some money. But I do emphasise the aspect that if the management is proper and if the

[Sadasyatilaka T. K. Velu Pillai]

management by gradual improvement is able to take care of the money that is given to it and spend less for other purposes than giving it to the teachers and in case that the management can give a certain amount of money regularly every month to the teachers, I am entirely for the Government contributing an equal sum. At any rate the poor teacher should get at least Rs. 13 or Rs. 14 per mensem. If he does not get enough and if he is not able to put enough into his mouth, how can you expect him to teach the young boys and girls belonging to the various communities and who are destined to be the future citizens of the State. I know I am speaking with certain limitations. I know that Government cannot spend too much on this matter. I urge upon the attention of the Department and the Government for a proper investigation to be made with regard to the payment of receipts and the method of keeping accounts. I pray that Government be pleased to sanction such an amount that these poor teachers may get at least Rs. 14 or Rs. 15. With these words I am happy to support the motion.

MR. K. R. NARAYANAN : സർ, ഗ്രാൻറസ്കൂൾ അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാരുടെ ശമ്പളം കൂട്ടിക്കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനെപ്പററി ഈ സഭയിൽ വിശേഷിച്ചു ഒരു പ്രസംഗത്തിൻെറ ആവശ്യമുണ്ടെന്നു എനിക്കു തോന്നുന്നില്ല. ഇവരെപ്പററി സാധാരണ ജനങ്ങൾ പറയുന്നതു്, വൃ ശ്രപാ പട്ടാളക്കാർ എന്നാണു്. ഈ പേരു് അവർക്കു എത്രമാത്രം യോജിക്കുമെന്നിരുന്നാലും അവരുടെ ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ നിലയെ പരിഗണിക്കുമ്പോൾ ഈ പേരു് വൃ ശ്രപാ പട്ടിണിപട്ടാളക്കാർ എന്നു തിരുത്തിയാൽ കൊള്ളാമെന്നും എനിക്കു തോന്നുന്നു. ഇതിനെപ്പററി ഗവണ്മെൻറിനെ പ്രത്യേകമായി ഉൽബോധിപ്പിക്കേണ്ട ഒരു ആവശ്യവുമില്ല, എന്നു ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞു കഴിഞ്ഞു. പക്ഷെ ഈ കാര്യം നടപ്പിൽവരുത്തുകയെന്നുള്ളതു് കേവലം അസാദ്ധ്യമായിട്ടാണിരിക്കുന്നതു്. എന്തെന്നാൽ ഈ സഭയിൽ എന്തെങ്കിലും ഒരു കാര്യം പാസാക്കുക എന്നുള്ളതുതന്നെ, പാറാവളയത്തിനകത്തു ഒട്ടകത്തിനെ കടത്തിവിടുന്നതുപോലെയാണു്. എന്നാൽ ഈ കാര്യം അങ്ങിനെയല്ല. ഇതു് ഇതിനുമുൻപുതന്നെ ഒന്നു രണ്ടുതവണ ഇവിടെ പാസ്സായിട്ടുള്ള സംഗതിയാണു്. എന്നാൽ ഇതുവരെ അതു നടപ്പിൽ വരുത്തിയിട്ടില്ലാ എന്നുള്ളതെയുള്ളു. എന്നാലും ഇതു് ഒരു നല്ല അവസരമാണെന്നു എനിക്കറിയാം. സാധാരണയായി ഒരു യോഗം കഴിയുമ്പോൾ മംഗളഗാനം ഒരു പതിവുണ്ടു്. അതുപോലെ നമ്മുടെ നിയമസഭയുടെ [illegible] ൧൦-ാമാണ്ടത്തെമംഗളഗാനം പാടാൻപോകുന്ന ഒരവസരമാണു് ഇതു്. അതു് അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാരുടെ ശമ്പളം കൂട്ടിക്കൊടുക്കണമെന്നുള്ള ഒരു മംഗളഗാനമാണു്. അങ്ങിനെ മംഗളകരമായ ഒരു മംഗളഗാനത്തോടുകൂടി അവസാനിപ്പിക്കുവാൻ പോകുന്നതു് വളരെ നന്നായിട്ടുണ്ടു്. എന്നാൽ

ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ ഗാനകർത്താവു സാക്ഷാൽ ഗോപാലൻ തന്നെയാണ്. ഈ ഗോപാലൻതന്നെയാണ് സാക്ഷാൽ സരസ്വതിയെ ഇപ്പോൾ കൈവശം വച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നതു്. ആ നിലയ്ക്കു പ്രീണിതചിത്തയായിത്തീൎന്ന സരസ്വതീദേവിയുടെ ഗാനാലാപത്തിൽ ഉന്മേഷചിത്തനായ സാക്ഷാൽ ഗോപാലന്റെ ഈ മംഗളഗാനത്തെ ഏററുപാടാൻ വടക്കൻ പറവൂർ മുതൽ കന്യാകുമാരിവരെയുള്ള സകലമാനജനങ്ങളും ഒരുങ്ങിയിരിക്കയാണെന്നുള്ളതു് എനിക്കു ഉറപ്പായി പറയാൻകഴിയും. ആയതിനാൽ ഈ പാവപ്പെട്ട അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാരുടെ ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ ദയനീയാവസ്ഥയെ പരിഹരിക്കാൻ കഴിയുന്നവിധത്തിലുള്ള സഹായങ്ങൾ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റു മേലദ്ധ്യക്ഷൻ ചെയ്യുമെന്നുള്ള വിശ്വാസത്തോടുകൂടി ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ പിൻതാങ്ങിക്കൊള്ളുന്നു.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI: സർ, ഗ്രാന്റു പള്ളിക്കൂടം അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാരെ സംബന്ധിച്ചാണ് ശക്തിമത്തായ ഒരു പ്രമേയം അവതരിപ്പിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതും അതിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു ഏതാനും മാന്യന്മാർ പ്രസംഗിക്കുകയും ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ളതു്. ഈ വിഷയത്തെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു തുടർച്ചയായി കുറെക്കാലങ്ങൾകൊണ്ടു് നിയമസഭയിലും മററും വാദപ്രതിവാദങ്ങൾ ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ടു്. ഈ ഗ്രാന്റുപള്ളിക്കൂടങ്ങളിലെ അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാൎക്കു എട്ടുരൂപാ മാത്രമാണ് ശമ്പളം ലഭിക്കുന്നതു്. ഇവരെപ്പോലെയുള്ള സൎക്കാർപള്ളിക്കൂടങ്ങളിലെ വാദ്ധ്യാന്മാൎക്കു ൧൫ രൂപയോളം ശമ്പളം ലഭിക്കുമ്പോൾ, ഇവരുടെ ശമ്പളം ൮ രൂപായിൽനിന്നും ൧൦ രൂപാവരെയെങ്കിലുമാക്കണമെന്നാണ് ഇപ്പോൾ അഭ്യൎത്ഥിക്കുന്നതു്. ഇതിനൊരു പരിഹാരമുണ്ടാകുന്നതുവരെ ഈ പരാതി ഞങ്ങൾ പറയുകതന്നെ ചെയ്യും. ഇതിനൊരു പോംവഴി കണ്ടുപിടിക്കുന്നതിന് തിരുവിതാംകൂർ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസവകുപ്പിലെ സ്ഥാപകസ്തംഭവും മഹാനുഭാവനുമായ ശ്രീമാൻ ഗോപാലമേനോൻ അവർകൾ വിചാരിച്ചാൽ കഴിയുന്നതാണു. എന്നാൽ ഇപ്രകാരം ശാശ്വതമായ ഒരു തീരുമാനമുണ്ടാക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള ധൈര്യം അദ്ദേഹത്തിനുണ്ടാകുമോ എന്നു സംശയമാണു. കാരണം പ്രാഥമികവിദ്യാഭ്യാസം നിൎബ്ബന്ധമാക്കുന്ന ഈ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസവകുപ്പുകാർ ഈ വിഷയത്തിൽ ഗവൺമെന്റു മുമ്പാകെ സമൎപ്പിക്കേണ്ടതായ ഒരു നിർദ്ദേശം സ്ഥിരമായും വിപുലമായും വരത്തക്ക ഒരു നിർദ്ദേശമായിരിക്കും. നാട്ടിന്റെ ഓരോ ഭാഗത്തും സമുദായങ്ങളുടെ വകയായോ മതപരമായോ മറെറല്ലാവിധമായ സ്ഥാപനങ്ങളും ഉണ്ടു്. ഇപ്രകാരമുള്ള

[Mr. T. C. Kesava Pillai]

സ്ഥാപനങ്ങളെ എല്ലാം അടിച്ചുടച്ച് ഒരു ഭരണ സമിതിയുടെ കീഴിലാക്കി, ആ വ്യാപ്തിക്കകത്തുള്ള സർവ്വമതസ്ഥന്മാരുടെയും രണ്ടോ മൂന്നോ സ്ഥാപനങ്ങൾമാത്രം ഉപയോഗിക്കുന്നതായിരിക്കും പ്രായോഗികമായ നടപടി. വില്ലേജ് പഞ്ചായത്തുകൾ നാട്ടിന്റെ ഓരോ ഭാഗത്തും വരുന്ന കാലത്ത് ഈ അധികാരാതൃത്തിയിലുള്ള ഗവണ്മെന്റുസ്കൂളുകൾ, സമുദായപരമായോ മതപരമായോ ഉള്ള സ്ഥാപനങ്ങൾ ഇവയെല്ലാം ആ വില്ലേജ് പഞ്ചായത്തിന് അധികാരാതൃത്തിയിൽ കൊടുക്കണം. ഈ പള്ളിക്കൂടങ്ങളിലെ വാദ്ധ്യാന്മാരെയെല്ലാം വില്ലേജ് പഞ്ചായത്തു നിയമിക്കണം. ഗവണ്മെന്റിൽനിന്നും കൺസാളിഡേററഡ്ഗ്രാന്റ് ഈ പഞ്ചായത്തിനു കൊടുക്കണം. അവർ ഇതിനെ സമമായി വീതിച്ച് സക്കാർ സ്കൂളദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാരെന്നോ ഗ്രാന്റ് സ്കൂളദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാരെന്നോ ഉള്ള ഭേദംകൂടാതെ ശമ്പളം കൊടുക്കണം. ഇപ്രകാരം ചെയ്യാൻ ഈ വകുപ്പിലെ മേലദ്ധ്യക്ഷനു ധൈര്യം വരുകയില്ല. അദ്ദേഹത്തിനു ധൈര്യമില്ലാത്തതുകൊണ്ടല്ലോ ഞാനിപ്രകാരം പറഞ്ഞതു്. എന്നാൽ ഒരു പ്രത്യേകസമുദായത്തിലുൾപ്പെട്ട ഒരാൾ മററു സമുദായപരമായും മതപരമായും പ്രവത്തനം നടത്തിവരുന്ന സ്ഥാപനങ്ങളെ അടിച്ചുടച്ച് ഒരു ഏകസ്ഥാപനമാക്കാൻ മടിക്കും.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: However interesting the scheme may be, it is not covered by the resolution.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI : ഇത്രയും പറഞ്ഞുകൊണ്ടു ഞാൻ വിരമിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP : സർ, ഈ പ്രമേയത്തോടു ഞാൻ പരിപൂർണ്ണമായി യോജിക്കുന്നു. ഇന്നലെ ഇവിടെ സ്ഥാപിച്ചതുപോലെ, ൭-ാംക്ലാസ്സ് ൯-ാംക്ലാസ്സ് ഈ പരീക്ഷകളിൽ ജയിച്ച് ട്രെയിനിംഗ് കഴിഞ്ഞതിനു ശേഷവും ഗവണ്മെന്റുദ്യോഗം കിട്ടാതെനിരാശയോടുകൂടി, എന്തെങ്കിലും ഉപജീവനമാർഗ്ഗം കിട്ടിയാൽ മതി, അർദ്ധപട്ടിണിയെങ്കിലും നീങ്ങിക്കിട്ടുമെന്നുള്ള ഉദ്ദേശത്തിൽ, ഗ്രാന്റുപള്ളിക്കൂടങ്ങളെ ആശ്രയിച്ച് സമാധാനബുദ്ധിയോടുകൂടി ജീവിക്കുന്ന ഒരു കൂട്ടരാണു ഈ അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാർ. ഇവർ ൯-ാംക്ലാസ്സുവരെ മലയാളഭാഷ നല്ലവണ്ണം പഠിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനു യോഗ്യതയുള്ളവരാണെന്നു എഡ്യൂക്കേഷൻ വകുപ്പുകാർതന്നെ സമ്മതിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള ഒരു പരമാർത്ഥമാണ്. എങ്കിലും ഇംഗ്ലീഷു മിഡിൽസ്കൂളിലും, ഹൈസ്കൂളിലും മലയാളം പഠിപ്പിക്കാൻ ഇക്കൂട്ടർ

അയോഗ്യരാണെന്നത്രെ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറു പറയുന്നത്. ഇതു വളരെ വിചിത്രമായിരിക്കുന്നു. ഈ അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാർക്കു പ്രതിമാസം കിട്ടുന്ന ശമ്പളം ൮ രൂപായാണ്. രണ്ടുനേരത്തെ ആഹാരത്തിനു കഴിച്ചു മതിയാകും. എന്നാൽ ഇവർക്ക് ഒരു കുടുംബംകൂടിയുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ പട്ടിണിയുടെ പാരമ്യം പറയുവാനുമില്ല. ഇപ്രകാരമുള്ള അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാരെയാണ് നമ്മുടെ കുട്ടികളുടെ അജ്ഞാനാന്ധകാരം നീക്കുവാനായി നിയോഗിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളത്. സാധുജനങ്ങളുടെ സംരക്ഷണാർത്ഥം സകലതും ചെയ്വാൻ തയ്യാറായിരിക്കുന്ന മഹാരാജാവു തിരുമനസ്സിലെ ഗവൺമെൻറ് ഇതുകൊണ്ടുണ്ടാകാവുന്ന നഷ്ടത്തെ അവഗണിച്ച്, ഈ സാധുക്കൾക്ക് പത്തുരൂപായെങ്കിലും ഗ്രാൻറുകൊടുക്കണമെന്നപേക്ഷിക്കുന്നു. എന്നാൽ ഗ്രാൻറു കിട്ടുമെന്നുള്ള ആശയോടുകൂടി വെറും അംഗീകാരം മാത്രം ലഭിച്ചതിനുശേഷം ൩, ൪, ൫ കൊല്ലം ഗ്രാൻറുസ്കൂളുകളിൽ വെറുതെ ജോലി ചെയ്യുന്ന അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാരും ഉണ്ട്. അവർക്ക് ഒരു രൂപായും ഗ്രാൻറു കിട്ടുന്നില്ല. അവർക്കും ഗ്രാൻറുകൊടുക്കേണ്ടതു അത്യാവശ്യമാണ്. ഗ്രാൻറു പത്തുരൂപയാക്കണം. എന്നാൽ എൻെറ സ്നേഹിതൻ മി. കെ. ആർ. നാരായണൻ പ്രസ്താവിച്ചതുപോലെ "ഗോപാലനു" വരം കൊടുക്കാനുള്ള അധികാരമില്ലാതെപോയി. ശുഭമുണ്ടാകട്ടെ എന്നു പ്രാർത്ഥിക്കാനല്ലാതെ പത്തുരൂപ കൊടുക്കാമെന്നു പറയാൻ അധികാരമില്ല. ഉണ്ടെങ്കിൽ തീർച്ചയായിട്ടും അദ്ദേഹം അങ്ങനെ ചെയ്യുമായിരുന്നു. സാധുക്കളോടു വളരെ അനുകമ്പയുള്ള സമർത്ഥനായ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസഡയറക്ടർ അവർകൾ ഇവർക്കു പത്തുരൂപാവരെ കൂടട്ടേ എന്ന് ആശംസിക്കുകയും, അതിനുവേണ്ടി ശ്രമിക്കുകയും അധികാരസ്ഥാനങ്ങളിൽ ശക്തിയുക്തം വാദിക്കയും ചെയ്യണമെന്നുള്ള പ്രാർത്ഥനയോടുകൂടി ഈ പ്രമേയത്തോടു ഞാൻ പൂർണ്ണമായി യോജിക്കുന്നു.

MR. M. L. JANARDANAN PILLAI: I would not ordinarliy have wished to take part in this discussion. But having heard some of my honourable friends, I wish to speak a few words.

Government expect all the officers and all those who are directly and indirectly associated with Government Departments to live and function as effectively as possible. I suppose it will be conceded by all, by the Director of Public Instruction and the Government that they expect the management school teachers to go to the school and have the necessary strength in his body to teach the children committed to his care. When Rs. 16 is the price of a bag of rice, still the Government think that the grant-in-aid school teacher must be satisfied with Rs. 8—and the amount that he is able to secure from the management. I think it is time for us to tell the Government and the Director of Education that they have to take up this matter seriously. Otherwise

[Mr. M. L. Janardanan Pillai.]

the education that will be imparted by that sort of teachers is going to suffer and very seriously suffer. Who are the people who are indirectly going to suffer by this neglect, by this want of attention and want of necessary safeguards for ensuring the contentment of the school master? It is the boys, it is the future generation who are going to suffer. Having cried and payed so much, and having made repeated arguments on the floor of this House, year after year, I do not think that any more arguments are necessary to convince the authorities that the sum of Rs. 8—is not sufficient for a school master to make both his ends meet. His condition is more pitiable if he happens to be the father of 3 or 4 children. Therefore, I think, this matter should engage the serious attention of Government as well as the Department. There is no use in expecting a person to carry on his duties satisfactorily if he is not in a position to keep body and soul together. With these observations I support the motion.

MR. P. S. MAHOMED: സർ, ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ പിൻതാങ്ങി രണ്ടുവാക്കു പറയാൻ ഞാൻ ആഗ്രഹിക്കുന്നു. ഗ്രാന്റ്സ്കൂൾ അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാർക്ക് ൧൦ രൂപ ഗവൺമെന്റിൽനിന്നു ഗ്രാന്റുകൊടുക്കുന്നു എങ്കിൽ അതു വളരെ നല്ലകാര്യമാണെന്നുള്ളതിനു യാതൊരു സംശയവുമില്ല. അങ്ങനെ ചെയ്യേണ്ടതുമാണ്. ഏതെങ്കിലും കാരണവശാൽ ഇതിനു സാധിച്ചില്ലെന്നുവരികിൽ ഇപ്പോൾ അനുവദിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള ഈ വാറലവൻസ് ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റുസ്കൂളുകളിലുള്ള വാദ്ധ്യാന്മാർക്കു കൊടുക്കുന്ന ഈ സന്ദർഭത്തിൽ ഈ പാവപ്പെട്ടവരുടെ കാര്യം വിസ്മരിക്കരുതെന്നു ഞാൻ അപേക്ഷിക്കുന്നു.

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: ഇപ്പോൾ ഒന്നുമില്ലാത്തവർക്കു കൊടുക്കാതിരുന്നാൽ മതിയോ?

MR. P. S. MAHOMED: അവർക്കും തീർച്ചയായിട്ടും കൊടുക്കണം. ഈ അലവൻസ് മററുള്ളവർക്കു കൊടുക്കുമ്പോൾ ഗ്രാന്റ്സ്കൂൾ അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാരെക്കൂടി ആ കൂട്ടത്തിൽ ഉൾപ്പെടുത്തണമെന്നാണു ഞാൻ പറയുന്നതു.

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU: ഈ രീതിമാററി അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാർ തന്നെ ഗവൺമെന്റിൽനിന്നു നേരിട്ടു ഗ്രാന്റുകെട്ടിവാങ്ങിക്കത്തക്കവണ്ണം ഏർപ്പാടുചെയ്യാൻ ദയവുണ്ടാകുമോ?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: അതിനെപ്പററിയാണു ഞാൻ പറയാൻ പോകുന്നതു.

MR. P. S. MAHOMED: വാറലവൻസിനത്തിൽ പ്രത്യേകമായി ഒരുതുക കൊള്ളിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതു ഗ്രാന്റിനത്തിൽ ഉൾപ്പെട്ടതല്ലല്ലോ. അതിൽനിന്നു ഒരു ചെറിയ തുക ഗ്രാന്റ്സ്കൂൾ അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാർക്കുകൂടി കൊടുക്കാൻ ദയവുണ്ടാകുമോ?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON : അതു് ചെയ്യേണ്ടതു് ഗവണ്മെൻറാണ്. ൯-ലക്ഷത്തിൽ ചില്വാനം രൂപ ഇപ്പോൾ ഗ്രാൻറിനത്തിലുണ്ട്.

MR. P. S. MAHOMED : ഈ വാറലവൻസ് പ്രത്യേകഒരിനമാണല്ലോ ആ തുക അല്പംകൂടി കൂട്ടി അതിൽ ഒരംശം ഇവർക്കുകൂടി കൊടുക്കാൻ സാധിക്കയില്ലേ?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON : അതു ചെയ്യേണ്ടതു് ഞാനല്ലെന്നു് പറഞ്ഞല്ലോ.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM : ഈ വാറലവൻസ് അവർക്കുകൂടി കൊടുക്കേണ്ടിവന്നാൽ എത്രരൂപ വേണ്ടിവരും?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON : അതു് കണക്കുനോക്കി പറയാം. എട്ടുലക്ഷംരൂപ പ്രൈവററുപ്രൈമറിസ്കൂൾ അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാർക്കുതന്നെ കൊടുക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. എട്ടുരൂപ ക്രമത്തിനു് എട്ടുലക്ഷം രൂപ വേണമെങ്കിൽ ഒൻപതുരൂപ ക്രമത്തിനു് ഒൻപതുലക്ഷം രൂപ വേണം. അങ്ങിനെ ഒരു ലക്ഷം രൂപ കൂടുതൽ വേണ്ടി വരും. ഈ അവസരത്തിൽ ഇതിനെല്ലാം. ഗവണ്മെൻറിനു സാധിക്കുമോ എന്നു് എനിക്കു സംശയമാണ്.

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU : ഒരു സർപ്ലസ്ബഡ്ജററല്ലേ ഇയ്യാണ്ടുള്ളതു്? എന്തുകൊണ്ട് മിച്ചമുള്ള തുകയിൽനിന്നും ഒരു ഭാഗം ഈ സാധുക്കൾക്കുകൂടി കൊടുത്തുകൂടാ എന്നാണ് ഞാൻ ചോദിക്കുന്നതു്?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON ; ബഡ്ജററ് തയ്യാറാക്കുന്നതു് ഉണ്ടാകാൻ പോകുന്ന വരവുചിലവുകളെ കണക്കാക്കിയാണ്. ചിലപ്പോൾ ഈ പ്രതീക്ഷയ്ക്കു് കാലസ്ഥിതിക്കനുസരണമായി വല്ല മാററങ്ങളും ഉണ്ടായി എന്നും വരാം.

Let us see how these teachers are employed. Who are they? Or, how do they come into the schools? They are employed by the Private Managements and the Government only approves such appointments. We only see whether they have the necessary minimum qualifications for teaching, and whether they can do their work properly. If, tomorrow the management says that "this man did not stand up when he saw me" or "I saw this man at such and such places and therefore I remove him". The Department would say, "send him away we don't know anything about it". The grant-in-aid school teacher is a creature of the management. If I want to impose a fine on him I must issue the order through the management. That is the position. What I say is, that he is an employee of the

[Mr. A. Gopala Menon.]

management and the Department only pays a contribution towards his salary. It is known that the teacher does other work also for the management. I have got the authority of a big management writing to me and asking that the Department should give a guarantee that teachers would be allowed to carry on certain religious and propaganda work, and unless that is granted they will not be sent up for training! That is, the management looks upon the teacher as its own creature. With great difficulty and with the steady and persistent support of our generous Dewan I have been able to give some protection to these teachers against arbitrary dismissals and against being treated as the slaves and chattels of the management. We are prepared to do more in the same direction. The Government are even trying to see whether some kind of aid is not possible to the teachers who do not get anything. I do not think that Government can afford to give me a very large amount at this juncture, but I have hope they would give me enough to enable me to carry out at least a part of this proposal. I trust that no honest minded or a right thinking citizen can suppose that it is possible to get the teachers to work for nothing.

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: Was there any case in which prosecution was launched against any management for cooking up false accounts?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: There have been cases. I think it was between the teacher and the manager of particular schools. The Department takes care not to get involved in such legal matters. Consequently, my point is that we have got certain administrative powers and those powers I am prepared to place at the disposal of the teachers and with the strong support of Government, but in this matter, so far as the salary of those teachers is concerned,

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: The House will now adjourn *sine die*.

The House adjourned *sine die* at 5 p. m.

V. S. ARUMUKHOM PILLAI,
Secretary to the Sri Mulam Assembly.

Annexure I.

REPORT

of the Public Accounts Committee on the Audit Report and Appropriation Accounts for the year 1115 M. E.

Section I – Introductory.

Public Accounts Committee. The Public Accounts Committee is a statutory body constituted under Rule 79 of the Travancore Legislative Rules for the purpose of dealing with the Audit Report and Appropriation Accounts of the Government and such other matters as the Government may refer to it.

The constitution and functions of the Public Accounts Committee are given in Rules 79 and 80 of the Travancore Legislative Rules and the Public Accounts Committee (Supplemental) Rules. The Committee for the year 1116 was constituted by G. O. D. Dis. No. 173-A of 40/Legis., dated 10-9-1940 and consisted of the following members:—

(1) The Dewan of Travancore—Chairman.

Nominated Members.

(2) The Chief Secretary to Government.
(3) The Financial Secretary to Government.

Elected Members.

(4) M. R. Ry. P. R. Godavarma Raja, Avl., M. A., B. L., Members Sri Chitra State Council.
(5) M. R. Ry. Varkala K. Madhavan, Avl., B. A., B. L., Member, Sri Mulam Assembly.
(6) M. R. Ry. Puliyoor T. P. Velayudhan Pillai, Avl., Member, Sri Mulam Assembly.

2. *Examination of the Audit Report and Appropriation Accounts for 1115.* The Audit Report and Appropriation Accounts of the Government for the year 1115 M. E. were considered by the Committee at its meetings held on 16-8-1941, 25-9-1941 and 26-11-1941. The proceedings of these meetings are given as appendices to the Report.

Section II—Comments on the Audit Report and Appropriation Accounts.

A. *General.*

3. Chapter I of the Report deals with a general review of the financial position. The total revenue of the State for the year amounted to Rs. 267·75 lakhs and the total expenditure to Rs. 268·32 lakhs, the net result of the working of the year being a revenue deficit of Rs. 0·57 of a lakh. This deficit was however not real, as an entire item of extraordinary expenditure *viz.*, contribution to the war

amounting to Rs. 5·6 lakhs was met out of the current revenues of the year. Excluding this item, the working of the year has disclosed a surplus of nearly Rs. 5 lakhs.

B. *General Results of Appropriation Audit.*

4. A statement comparing the total grants and the total expenditure in the voted section during the year is given below :—

	Expenditure charged to Revenue including working expenses under Revenue heads.	Capital expenditure including investments on reproductive works.	Loans and Advances.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Original grant voted by the Legislature .	1,87,59,958	50,27,288	5,66,500	2,43,53,746
2. Supplementary grants (voted) .	1,97,440	4,59,657	...	6,57,097
3. Expenditure authorised under Section 32 of Act II 1108 .	7,71,022	...	3,47,312	11,18,334
4. Reappropriation of funds sanctioned by Govt: .	...	...	...	...
5. Net aggregate grant.	1,97,28,420	54,86,945	9,13,812	2,61,29,177
6. Aggregate disbursements .	1,88,35,627	37,74,390	8,27,227	2,34,37,244
7. Savings. .	8,92,793	17,12,555	86,585	26,91,933

The total savings amounted to Rs. 26,91,933 or 10·3 per cent. of the total grant which is the second best during the quinquennium ending 1115 as will be seen from the following table :—

Year.	Final grant (in lakhs of rupees)	Savings (in lakhs of rupees).	Percentage.
1111	255·70	50·00	12·73
1112	255·29	46·86	18·35
1113	271·29	27·69	10·21
1114	281·26	59·67	21·21
1115	261·29	26·92	10·30

Savings occurred in 29 out of 37 grants. A list of the more important savings is given on pages 34 and 35 of the Audit Report. As usual, the major portion of the savings amounting to Rs. 20·35 lakhs

or about 70 per cent, of the total savings was contributed by the P. W. (including Water Works) and the Electricity Departments. Among the major schemes responsible for this were the mofussil water supply schemes, the Drainage Scheme, the Pallivasal Hydro-Electric Project and the Broadcasting Scheme. The reason for the large savings under these items was that the progress of the schemes was held up on account of difficulty in obtaining materials due to war conditions.

The Committee is of opinion that the budget grants could have been utilised more fully especially in the case of the P. W. D. (Roads, buildings and Irrigation).

C. *Budgeting.*

5. A statement of the percentage of variations between the final grants and actual expenditure during 1115 as compared with the corresponding percentages for the four previous years is given on pages 43 and 44 of the Report. The percentage of variation remained within 5 per cent. throughout the quinquennium only in respect of 7 grants. There were 13 such cases during the year under report and of these, the variations under 5 grants were less than 1 per cent. In two grants there were no variations at all. Compared to the previous year, the percentage of variation shows an improvement in 21 heads and a deterioration under the other 16 heads. But the variations under grants Nos. XI Public Works, XII Electricity and Telephone, XXXI Railways, XXXII to XXXIV, XXXVI, and XXXVII, Loans Advances etc., are very high and point to the need for careful attention by the departments concerned in the preparation of the estimates which will have closer approximation to the actuals.

D. *Control over Expenditure.*

6. *Surrender of Savings.* Under Article 930 of the Financial and Account Code, whenever the head of a department finds that he cannot spend during the year any portion of the appropriation placed at his disposal, he should immediately report the fact to the Government. The Committee examined the various important cases of non-surrender of funds and obtained the explanations of the departments concerned in the matter. The explanations were generally found to be unacceptable and the various cases of non-surrender show that the Controlling Officers were not keeping themselves in touch with the progress of expenditure.

7. *Unnecessary Supplementary Grants.* The following is list of the items under which supplementary grants obtained from the Legislature or additional expenditure authorised by Government under Section 32 of Act II of 1108 turned out to be wholly unnecessary, the original grants themselves having proved sufficient to accommodate the entire expenditure of the year :—

Name of grant.	Original grant.	Supplementary grant (voted)	Additional expenditure authorised by the Government.	Final grant.	Actual expenditure.	Savings compared with original grant.
I, 1. Land Revenue. 2. Taxes on Income and Capital Expr. not charged to Rev. Survey of minor circuits	Rs. 10,51,949	Rs. 500	Rs. 4,730	Rs. 10,57,179	Rs. 10,25,932	Rs. 26,017
III. 16 Administration of Justice	11,25,100	1,675	27,713	11,54,488	10,80,140	44,960
IX. 25 Medical, Public Health and Sanitation—Medical Department	10,50,977	1,600	..	10,52,577	10,34,722	16,255
XI. P. W. D. (excluding 31 C)	58,88,962	4,83,467	97,200	64,69,629	52,86,746	6,02,216
XIV. Agriculture and Fisheries	2,32,262	..	180	2,32,442	2,03,788	28,474
XXXIV. Other Loans	65,000	..	1,52,679	2,17,269	34,100	30,900

8. *Excessive supplementary grants.* The following is a list of such cases :—

Grant No.	Name of Grant.	Supplementary grant or additional expenditure authorised.	Savings in the final grant.
XIII	18. Police	Rs. 1,08,278	Rs. 90,302
XV	22. Industries, XXXII Clay Refining and Porcelain Factory—Working Expenses and Debt Head Investments—Clay Refining and Porcelain Factory and Rubber Factory	64,200	37,242
XIX	25. Medical, Public Health and Sanitation—Ayurveda Department	2,000	1,649
XXIX	41. Miscellaneous	19,770	17,649
XXXII	Agricultural Loans	50,000	46,971

E. *Rush of expenditure at the close of the year.*

9. The Committee examined the statement furnished on page 91 of the Audit Report and obtained the explanation of the department in the matter. The Committee is of opinion that there is no excuse for not observing the rule regarding the proportion of expenditure for each quarter of the year and that the rules should be strictly applied more in the P. W. D. than in any other department as otherwise there will always be rush of expenditure at the close of the year leading to hurried payments on incomplete measurements with a view to utilise the grant for the year.

F. *Supplementary grants voted and expenditure authorised under Section 32 of Act II of 1108.*

10. The following is a department-war list of the supplementary grants voted by the Legislature and additional expenditure authorised under Section 32 of Act II of 1108.

Major Head.		*Supplementary grants voted and additional expenditure authorised under Section 32 of Act II of 1108.*
		Rs.
Land Revenue	...	4,730
Taxes on Income	...	500
Forest	..	85,705
Administration of Justice	...	29,388
Jails	...	10,000
Police	...	1,08,278
Agriculture	...	180
Industries	...	1,200
Medical, Public Health and Sanitation etc.	...	20,875
Stationery and Printing	...	50,000
Scientific and Miscellaneous departments	...	29,446
Buildings, Communications and Miscellaneous Public Improvements	...	1,49,910
Irrigation—Working Expenses	...	18,900
Miscellaneous	...	19,770
Capital Expenditure not charged to Revenue.		
Town Planning Schemes	...	33,650
Water Supply to Municipal Towns etc.	...	3,76,007
Providing dustless surfacing to M. S. Road	...	2,200
Working Expenses—Clay Refining and Porcelain Factory	...	13,000
Do. Commercial Transport	...	3,24,380
Debt Head Investments on reproductive schemes	...	1,50,000
Do. Loans and Advances	...	3,47,312
Total	...	17,75,431

G. *Irregular Re-appropriations.*

11. There was no case of re-appropriation from one grant to another during the year or any case of re-appropriation within a grant which was not in accordance with the rules prescribed by the Government.

H. *New Services.*

12. The Financial Secretary reported that in the year under review, there was no case of supplementary grant which was treated as a grant for expenditure on 'new services.'

I. *Excess expenditure under voted grants.*

13. The following is a list of grants under which the actual expenditure exceeded the final grant.

Name of grant.	Original grant.	Supplementary grant. (voted.)	Additional expenditure authorised under Section 32 of Act II of 108.	Final grant.	Actual expenditure.	Excess over final grant.	Percentage of excess.
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs
X. 25. Medical, Public Health and Sanitation. F. Public Health and Sanitation . G. Prevention of Epidemics .	2,56,416	2,050	15,225	2,73,691	2,95,681	21,990	8·04
XXI. 8. Registration.	3,24,970	..	..	3,24,970	3,29,367	4,397	1·35
XXIV. 19. Ports .	27,764	..	..	27,764	29,647	1,883	6·78
XXV. 17. Jails .	1,17,874	..	10,000	1,27,874	1,28,508	634	0·50
XXVII. 29. Stationery and Printing .	2,49,836	50,000	..	2,99,836	3,11,030	11,194	3·73
XXXVII. Debt Head Mint Advance .	1,55,000	..	...	1,55,000	3,39,862	1,84,862	119·26
Total .	11,31,860	52,050	25,225	12,09,135	14,34,095	2,24,960	

Under Article 87 (*c*) of the Financial and Account Code, all these cases of excess have to be regularised by the vote of the Legislature.

J. *Financial Irregularities.*

14. The Committee examined the more important cases of the financial irregularities disclosed in the Report and are satisfied that the irregularities were not due to any defect or inadequacy of the existing rules or system and note that appropriate action has been taken by Government against the officers at fault.

Trivandrum,
23rd December, 1941.

For the Public Accounts Committee,
A. LEKSHMINARAYANA AYYAR,
Financial Secretary to Government and Secretary, Public Accounts Committee.

APPENDIX No. I.

Proceedings of the meeting of the Public Accounts Committee held at 5 P. M. on Saturday the 16th August 1941 in the Office of the Chief Secretary.

Present:—

M. R. Ry. *Rajyasevapravina* M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar Avl., (*Chief Secretary to Government.*)

,, R. Rama Varier, Avl., (*Deputy Accountant-General in charge of the Financial Secretary's duties.*)

,, P. R. Godavarma Raja Avl.,

,, Varkala K. Madhavan Avl., and

,, Puliyoor T. P. Velayudhan Pillai Avl.

1. Under authorisation by the Dewan, the Chief Secretary to Government presided.

2. Mr. Rama Varier informed the Committee that Mr. Puliyoor T. P. Velayudhan Pillai had given notice of a number of questions requiring information on several points and wanted some more time for gathering the required information. He suggested that the meeting of the Committee might be adjourned to some other convenient date. The Committee agreed to the suggestion.

3. On the suggestion of Mr. Velayudhan Pillai, the Chief Secretary said that arrangements would be made for the Heads of the various departments to be present at the adjourned meeting of the Committee to enable the members to elicit information in regard to several of the items in Appendix B of the Report.

4. It was finally agreed that the meeting might be adjaurned to some date after the Onam holidays.

5. The meeting terminated at 5-15 P. M.

APPENDIX No. II.

Proceedings of the meeting of the Public Accounts Committee held on 25-9-1941.

The adjourned meeting of the Public Accounts Committee (for the year 1116) was held at 11:30 A. M. on Thursday the 25th September 1941, in the Chief Secretary's Office.

The following members were present :

(1) M. R. Ry. *Rajyasevapravina* G. Parameswaran Pillai Avl. (*Chief Secretary to Government.*)

(2) Mr. A. Lakshminarayana Ayyar (*Financial Secretary to Government.*)

(3) Mr. Varkala K. Madhavan.

(4) Mr. Puliyoor T. P. Velayudhan Pillai, and

(5) Mr. P. R. Godavarma Raja.

1. Under authorisation by the Dewan, the Chief Secretary to Government (*Rajyasevapravina* G. Parameswaran Pillai) presided.

2. Mr. Velayudhan Pillai wanted to know why a list of supplementary grants treated as "new services" which the Committee had to consider under the rules was not placed before the Committee.

The Financial Secretary stated that, in the year 1115, there were no supplementry grants which would be treated as on "new services."

3. Replies to certain questions on the Audit Report and Appropriation Accounts for 1115 put by Mr. T P. Velayudhan Pillai were given to the members at the meeting. These questions and replies are given in the annexure.

Meetings of the Public Accounts Committee.

4. With regard to the reply to question No. 1 relating to the meetings of the Public Accounts Committee, Mr. Velayudhan Pillai said that he was not satisfied with the answer. In his opinion the Committee for 1116 had met on the last day of the year because it should meet at least once during that year. Since, during Karkadagom, the members would be busy with the Budget Session, the Committee should meet in Mithunam; that meant the report should be ready in Edavam. On the other hand, the Report for 1115 was supplied only during Karkadagom, so that as a pure formality the Committee met for five minutes on the last day of the year 1116 and adjourned. He, therefore, requested that the Accounts Department should supply the Audit Report in Edavam every year.

The Chairman assured the member that every endeavour would be made to publish the Report early enough so that the meeting of the Committee might be held before the Budget Session.

Mr. Velayudhan Pillai said that, in previous years when this question was raised, the same reply was given but things had not yet improved.

The Financial Secretary explained the difficulties in publishing the Report earlier and stated that every attempt would be made hereafter to have the report published before the Budget Session.

Surrender of Funds.

5. To a question from Mr. T. P. Velayudhan Pillai, he was informed that the surrenders mentioned in reply to part (*c*) Question No. 2 were made after 1st Edavam 1115.

Mr. Velayudhan Pillai then asked why in spite of the rule referred to in part (*a*), there were such large surrenders of allotment after 1st Edavom. He then drew particular attention to the non-surrenders mentioned at page 49 of the Audit Report for 1115, item (4) "Important cases of non-surrender of funds."

The Financial Secretary replied that the explanation for the cases of non-surrenders was given at Page 84 of the Report.

The Chairman added that though under the rules surrender of funds should be made before 1st Edavom, funds under certain categories could not sometimes be so surrendered. For instance, the P. W. D. Workshops might be awaiting execution of orders in the expectation that certain materials would arrive before the end of the year; but, on account of the war, they might not arrive as expected and the amount would naturally lapse at the end of Karkadagom for reasons beyond control. This applied to such Departments as P. W. D., Electricity, Transport, Ceramics, Technological Institute and certain other commercial departments.

Mr. Velayudhan Pillai asked whether the explanations of those heads of departments who had not complied with the rules were obtained.

The Financial Secretary said that Government would do so after the Public Accounts Committee had considered the matter.

The Chairman observed that the Committee might record its opinion that the explanation of the officers concerned might be obtained as to why they had not surrendered funds before the 1st Edavam as required by the rules.

Mr. Velayudhan Pillai complained that the lapse of funds was due to the laxity and dereliction of duty of the officers concerned. Referring to the P. W. D., he stated that, although funds had been sanctioned for works, estimates were not prepared in time, and thus the works could not be taken up. The public could derive no benefit out of the allotment.

The Chairman stated that Government would take note of the member's observations and take the necessary action.

Mr. Velayudhan Pillai observed that he was glad that (having been himself an elected member of the Legislature) the Chief Secretary was one who could appreciate the difficulties of the non-officials; he was therefore, thankful that such an official was guiding the Committee.

Authorisation under Sec. 38 of Act II of 1108.

6. Referring to the reply to question No. 3 regarding authorisation of expenditure, Mr. Velayudhan Pillai stated that he did not want to discuss the matter further in the absence of the Dewan-President whose powers were involved in the matter.

The Chairman remarked that, since the question had been raised now, he would say that it might not be feasible to consult the Finance Committee in all cases.

Trade Agency at Bombay.

7. With reference to Mr. Velayudhan Pillai's question about the Trade Agency at Bombay, the Chairman observed

"In regard to the sum of Rs. 31,213 due to private parties in Travancore, there was obviously a misapprehension about the scope of the trade agency. Under the terms of the agreement with Government, the Trade Agent was really intended to act as a liaison officer to get the suppliers in Travancore into touch with the customers in Bombay and other places. It was never the intention of Government to hold themselves responsible in any manner for the value or disposal of goods sent by local merchants to the Trade Agent or through him to anybody else. It is rather unfortunate that some people, without understanding the rights and obligations between the Trade Agent and the Government, made supplies to him instead of to the customers concerned, to be delivered over to the purchasers and, in the course of such transactions, they might have sustained some loss. Government cannot hold themselves responsible for such loss. In regard to the sum of Rs 4,106 due to Government, action was being taken and it is hoped that the amount would be recovered."

Mr. Velayudhan Pillai, referring to page 119 of the Audit Reports asked whether the explanation of the Director of Industries about his omission to obtain and furnish the weekly accounts of the Trade Agent had since been taken.

The Chairman stated that this would be looked into.

Mr. Velayudhan Pillai said that he wanted to examine the Director in this respect as also in respect of para 8 of the agreement with the Trade Agent.

8. The Committee adjourned at 12·45 P. M. and reassembled at 3-15 P. M.

State Transport Department.

9. Referring to question No. 5, Mr. Velayudhan Pillai suggested that the Trivandrum Rubber Factory should make all the tyres required by the Transport Department.

The Chairman stated that the Factory was not able even to execute all the orders of the War Supplies Department, though it was working double shift. Further, it was impossible locally to manufacture motor tyres. So the Factory was concentrating its attention on certain classes of goods other than motor tyres.

Mr. Velayudhan Pillai stated that considering the present tyre mileage allowed, manufacture of motor tyres in the local factory would be very profitable.

The Chairman said that the matter would be examined.

Misappropriation.

10. With regard to the reply to question No. 7 Mr. Velayudhan Pillai referred to item No. 7 at page 184 of the Report and asked why this misappropriation which took place in 1114 had not yet been disposed of although two years had elapsed since.

The Chairman stated that this case was pending before the High Court.

Mr. Velayudhan Pillai also stated that the punishment was generally inadequate.

The Chairman replied that the present Head of the Administration was one who did not flinch in the matter of dealing adequately with offenders and that condign punishment would be meted out to those found guilty.

Unnecessary Supplementary Grants.

11. After discussion, the Committee decided that the explanation of the officers who obtained unnecessary supplementary grants should be obtained and that necessary steps should be taken against such officers.

Savings in grants.

12. Mr. Velayudhan Pillai stated that it was very unfortunate that there was savings even in the allotment for the Uplift of Backward Communities.

Mr. Velayudhan Pillai then referred to the large variation between allotment and expenditure. In regard to the P. W. D., for instance, he said that this variation was due to the laxity and dereliction of duty of P. W. D officers.

For instance, he said that although there is an allotment this year for the Kollakadavu Bridge, the officers concerned do not appear to have taken so far the necessary steps to get the plans and estimates sanctioned by Government and the work commenced. In consideration of the importance and the urgency of the work, Government may be pleased to issue definite instructions to the Chief Engineer to see that the funds allotted for the purpose are not allowed to lapse at the end of the year.

The Chairman replied that steps would be taken to avoid such lapse of funds.

13. Mr. Velayudhan Pillai then stated that no industrial loans were given in 1115 although there was allotment.

The Chairman said that that was because the Industrial Borad had not then been constituted and that as the Board has since been constituted there was no room for such complaints hereafter.

14. Mr. Velayudhan Pillai then referred to agricultural loans. He said that loans should be given in deserving cases.

The Chairman stated that before the next meeting information would be collected from the Tahsildars etc., about the number of applications received and about the disposal of these applications.

Pension Charges.

15. Referring to the reply to question No. 10 regarding the increase in pension charges, Mr. Velayudhan Pillai remarked that he did not expect any definite answer on such an important question. He only wanted to bring to the notice of Government the necessity for appointing a Committee consisting of expert economists to go into the question of reducing expenditure on pensions. He was not against payment of pensions as that was the only attraction to a Government servant to serve honestly. A fund might, he suggested, be created by collecting, say, 8 cash in the rupee from every Government servant; and thus about Rs. 1 or 2 lakhs could be collected every year.

The Chairman said that there was already a system of Provident Fund and pointed out that if the suggestion was to recover a portion of an officer's salary to constitute a general pension fund, it was not equitable as it might happen that the officer who contributed might not get anything from this fund.

Mr. Velayudhan Pillai showed a book entitled 'Teachers' Pension in the United States.' Although the suggestions contained in the book might not, he said, be applicable here, he requested that an Expert Committee may be appointed to go into the question of the increasing expenditure on pensions.

Utilisation of reeds.

16. Referring to the reply to question No. 15 regarding the utilisation of reeds by the Forest Department Mr. Velayudhan Pillai asked whether any final orders were issued on the report.

The Chairman replied that it was under the consideration of Government and assured the member that no hasty steps would be taken.

Rush of expenditure in Karkadagom.

17. Referring to the reply to question No. 16 regarding rush of expenditure, Mr. Velayudhan Pillai stated that he was not satisfied with the answer as the Chief Engineer's report did not at all represent the true state of affairs.

The Chairman then read out to the Committee a note on the subject received from the Chief Engineer explaining in some detail how it might not be possible sometimes to keep up the proportion fixed by the rules.

18. The Committee adjourned at 4-30 P. M. to meet again on a date to be fixed and communicated to the members.

ANNEXURE TO APPENDIX No. II.

Public Accounts Committee.

Questions for information on the Audit Report and Appropriation Accounts for 1115, by Mr. T. P. Velayudhan Pillai and their answers.

1. *Question.*

Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) Whether they are aware that the former practice was to hold the meetings of the Public Accounts Committee in the month of Edavam or in any event before the Budget Session of the Legislature.

(*b*) The reason for fixing the time of the meeting after the Budget Session and also for the belated printing and supply of Audit Report.

Answer.

(*a*) and (*b*). The Public Accounts Committees which examined the Appropriation Reports for 1111 onwards have met only in the month of August and in one year, only in the next December (*Vide* Public Accounts Committee's Report for 1113.

It will also be seen that from 1111 onwards additional information such as irregularities on works-outlay, review on the administration of the grants, general comments on budgeting etc., are being given in the Reports and the scope of the Reports has been much enlarged. This necessarily takes more time than in 1108 or 1109 and when once the budget work begins and the budget Session of the Legislature commences, the pressure of work both in the Accountant-General's Office and in the Government Press necessarily causes delay in the printing of the Report.

In the Appropriation Report for 1115 M. E., in particular, the proforma accounts of the commercial schemes have been completely remodelled and the preparation of these accounts for the first time naturally caused some delay; and besides, the preparation and drafting of new publications such as the Budget Memorandum and the Finance and Revenue Accounts etc., for the first time resulted in heavy pressure of work both in the Accountant General's Office and the Government Press contributing to the delay. The Report could not therefore be got ready earlier. Anyhow it was made ready in August as usual.

In British India also the Public Accounts Committee ordinarily meets only after an interval of one year from the close of the year, the appropriation accounts of which is to be considered, *e. g.*, it is seen that the Public Accounts Committees which considered the Appropriation accounts of the Government of Madras for 1938-39 and those for 1939-40 met only on 21-5-1940 and 15-6-1941, respectively.

2. *Question.*

Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) The rules for surrender by Departmental Heads of the surplus funds before the close of the year.

(b) The total amounts which could have been surrendered under the rules during the year 1115 by the Departmental Heads, if only they exercised proper control over the sanctioned grants.

(c) The total amount actually surrendered during 1115 by the Departmental Head with the amount from each Department.

(d) The action, if any, taken by Government against each of such Departmental Heads for committing breach of the rule.

Answer.

(a) The rule on the subject is given in Article 930 of the Financial and Account Code Volume I, the relevant portion of which runs as follows:—

"Whenever the head of a department finds that he cannot spend during the year any portion of the appropriation placed at his disposal he should immediately report the fact to the Finance Department through the Accountant-General and to the Administrative Department of Government in Form 123. It is not permissible to reserve such funds to meet possible new demands which may arise in the course of the year.

NOTE:—Proposals for surrenders should give full explanation of the causes for such surrenders and the 1st Edavam in each year is the latest date for the receipt by the Finance Department of proposals for surrenders. Proposals received after this date will not be considered by Government.

(b) The exact amount that could have been surrendered by the departmental heads cannot be estimated now. Even in spite of proper control over progress of actuals against sanctioned grants, it may happen that the expenditure expected to be incurred within the year could not be incurred before the close of the year due to unforeseen reasons, *e. g.* articles ordered for and expected to be supplied before the close of the year not arriving in time. Besides, the accounts of a year are finally closed only after three months after the financial year closes and several adjustments are effected during the period. The extent of these adjustments cannot be gauged with precision by the close of the financial year.

(c) The total amount actually surrendered was Rs. 2,41,820.

Details.

		Rs.
Education Department	...	29,250
General Administration	...	9,492
P. W. D.	...	1,63,894
Industries	...	5,000
State Charities	...	100
H. H. The Maharaja's Garage and stables	...	6,500
Devaswom Department	...	8,204
Water Supply installation to Government buildings	...	19,380

(d) The question of taking action will be considered after the Public Accounts Committee has considered the matter.

3. *Question.*

With reference to page 33 of the Report regarding the expenditure authorised under section 32, will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) Whether they have consulted the Finance Committee before authorising the expenditure in accordance with the definite assurance given to the Public Accounts Committee by the Dewan-President as stated at pages 2 and 9 of the Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Audit Report for the year 1108;

(b) If not, why.

Answer.

(a) & (b). Attention is invited to para 5 of the proceedings of the meeting of the Public Accounts Committee held on 17-6-1936 wherefrom it will be seen that the matter was reconsidered and it was decided that it was not possible to consult the Finance Committee before an expenditure was authorised under Section 32 of Act II of 1108.

4. *Question.*

Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Financial Secretary has already placed before the Public Accounts Committee under Supplemental Rules (10) a list of supplementary grants for "New Services" in 1115;

(b) If the answer is in the negative, why this was not done in time so as to enable the members of the Public Accounts Committee to study it properly.

Answer.

(a) No.

(b) There was no case of supplementary grant for "New Services" during 1115.

5. *Question.*

With reference to the reduction in the tyre mileage allowed by the Company as stated at page 122 of the Report, will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) The agreement with the Company in this behalf;

(b) The subsequent alterations, if any, in the terms of agreement;

(c) Whether they have considered ways and means to reduce the expenditure under the item "tyres".

Answer.

(a) & (b). According to the original agreement, which was for a period of 3 years, the contractors were to supply the tyres and tubes required by the Department on payment of a uniform rate of one anna 4 pies per vehicle mile. This rate was fixed when the entire fleet of vehicles belonging to the Department were of the same type and equipped with six tyres each.

With the introduction into service of buses of a less heavy type (with four tyres) the original rate of one anna 4 pies was changed to one anna per vehicle mile in respect of such buses. Subsequently when the M. S. Road was resurfaced with concrete or tar-macadam as the case may be, the rates in respect of such improved roads were reduced, from 1-10-1116, to 9 pies per vehicle mile in the case of vehicles whose unladen weight does not exceed 2¾ tons and 11 pies in respect of vehicles whose unladen weight exceeds 2¾ tons.

(c) It is considered not possible now to reduce the expenditure under "tyres" still further.

6. *Question.*

With reference to the important cases of non-surrender of funds as stated at page 49 of the Report, will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) Whether they have enquired into the reasons of non-surrender:

(b) Whether any steps have been taken in the matter and the results of the same.

Answer.

(a) & (b). Instructions were issued to the Heads of Departments in Circular No. F1. 6505, dated 4-10-1940 to exercise stricter control over expenditure, to be in touch with the progress of expenditure and to take timely action for the surrender of funds. This control will facilitate surrender of funds at the proper time.

Any further action deemed necessary will be taken after the Report is considered by the Public Accounts Committee.

7. *Question.*

With reference to Appendix B (pages 183-196) of the Report will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) Whether they have enquired into the question of the increasing number of mis-appropriation of Government money by public servants.

(b) Whether they are aware that the number of such mis-appropriation has been on the increase on account of the inadequacy of punishments and the delay in the final disposal of such cases as disclosed by items Nos. 7, 14, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 26, 2[illegible], 30, 31, 32 and 39 in Appendix B of the Report.

Answer.

(a) & (b). The number of cases of misappropriation of public money by Public Servants dealt with in the Audit Report and the Appropriation Accounts of 1115 is slightly greater than that of 1114. Government do not consider that this is due to any special reason which warrants a separate enquiry. All cases of misappropriation brought to the notice of Government are suitably dealt with. Adequate punishment is given to the guilty in all cases after a thorough enquiry into the whole question. Recoveries have been made as far as is

practicable to make good the loss to Government by misappropriation of public money. The Heads of departments have been specially asked that the rules in force for money transactions, keeping of accounts etc., should be strictly adhered to and any breach thereof suitably dealt with. This has been done with a view to minimise the chances of misappropriation.

The statement that 'the cases have been on the increase on account of the inadequacy of punishment and delay in the final disposal of cases is therefore only a matter of opinion.

8. *Question.*

Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether they have taken steps to prevent the tendency of obtaining unnecessary supplementary grants, unnecessary non-voted appropriation, and excessive supplementary grants, as detailed at pages 47 to 49 of the Report:

(b) The action, if any, taken against such Departmental Heads who are responsible for the same?

Answer.

(a) In Circular No. Fl. 6505 dated 4-10-1940, Government have issued certain instructions for enabling Controlling Officers to exercise better scrutiny and control over the progress of Expenditure. These instructions, when followed, will help the controlling officers, to a great extent to avoid asking for unnecessary grants, etc., wherever possible.

(b) Action will be taken after the Public Accounts Committee has considered the irregularities.

9. *Question.*

Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether they have considered the causes for the high percentage of savings as compared to final grants as shown at page 45 of the Report especially with regard to Grants XI, and XVIII Uplift of Backward Communities;

(b) If so, the result of the same?

Answer.

(a) & (b) The circumstances in which the savings occurred and the various minor heads which make up the total savings under each grant are given in Statement II, Appropriation Accounts of grants (voted) by Minor Heads given on pages 62 to 150 of the Report.

10. *Question.*

Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) In view of the increase in expenditure of Rs. 1·92 lakhs on account of the increase in the retired list as shown at page 11 of the Report, whether they have considered any ways and means for solving the problem at least in respect of future recruitment to the Public Service:

(b) If not, why?

Answer.

(*a*) & (*b*). Increase in pension charges is the indirect though natural result of the extension of the activities of Government which in the case of a progressive administration like that of Travancore is unavoidable. It may be noted that the percentage of pension charges to total expenditure in Travancore is more or less the same as those in the Madras Province or Mysore. In the circumstances, it is not considered necessary now to take up the question of reducing pension charges.

11. *Question.*

Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) why there was a fall in expenditure in the Education Budget of **1115** to the extent of Rs. 1·74 lakhs under "Grants-in-aid" to non-Government schools, etc., as stated at page 9 (20) ;

(*b*) The amount of fall in expenditure on account of non-payment of the grants-in-aid to non-Government schools and the reasons for such non-payment ?

Answer.

(*a*) The fall in expenditure was due to

1. Retirements, leave and other causes under salaries and establishment ;
2. Restrictions imposed in the award of grants, stipends and fee concessions ; and
3. Economy of expenditure exercised by the officers of the Department.

(*b*) There had been no fall in expenditure on account of non-payment of grants-in-aid during **1115**. Savings to the extent of Rs. 24,039 out of a total provision of Rs. 10,24,563 provided under grants-in-aid to non-Government English, Malayalam and Tamil Schools were however available during the year due mainly to reduction of aid on account of low attendance, non-fulfilment of memo conditions and abolition of overlapping schools.

12. *Question.*

With reference to page 91 of the Report will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) The steps taken, if any, for preventing the excess over voted grants as shown at page 41 of the Report ;

(*b*) Whether they think it necessary to check this tendency and if so, by what means ?

Answer.

(*a*) & (*b*), By Circular No. Fl. 6505, dated 4-10-1940, Government have introduced a system whereby Controlling Officers are required to watch the progress of expenditure against budget grants. The system is now being worked as required by this Circular and it is expected that this will make it possible for Controlling Officers to take timely action to avoid excess of expenditure over budget gaants.

13. *Question.*

With reference to Item 3 on page 70 of the Report, will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) The number and the amount of the decrees which were barred by limitation ·

(*b*) The reasons for writing off the three-fourth of Rs. 2,853-5-5?

Answer.

(*a*) Four cases amounting to Rs. 2,853-5-5;

(*b*) The recovery of one-fourth from the Officers at fault was ordered as a punishment. Government considered that the circumstances of the case did not justify the recovery of the whole amount from them and therefore ordered three-fourth of the loss being written off.

14. *Question.*

With reference to page 35 of the Report, will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) Why there was so much savings in 1115, in grants Nos. XXXII, XXXIII, and XXXIV;

(*b*) The number of applications for such loans in 1115 and the amounts, respectively, given as loans from each of such grants during the year.

Answer.

(*a*) The explanations for savings are given in the Appropriation Accounts of the grants concerned on pages 146 and 147 of the Audit Report and Appropriation Accounts.

(*b*) The number of applications for Industrial loans received in 1115 was 5. Information regarding the number of applications received for loans from the other grants is not available. The amounts actually paid as loans are given on page 35 of the Report.

15. *Question.*

With reference to the Report submitted to Government after the investigations with the Eatta growth in Nariamangalam-Pallivasal areas, will the Government be pleased to state whether they have taken any steps to increase the receipt from the Forest Department?

Answer.

As soon as the investigation of reed growth in Nariamangalam-Pallivasal tract was over, correspondence was started with Messrs. Titaghur Paper Mills, Calcutta and the Punalur Mills and the correspondence between Government and the Titaghur Paper Mills is still going on. The correspondence with the Punalur Paper Mills has taken definite shape and an agreement has been arrived at as a result of which a steady income of Rs. 6,900 to Rs. 9,600 per year is assured to Government. The demand of this mill is expected to increase considerably with the expansion of the activities of the Mill now under contemplation.

It is also understood that Messrs. Harveys of the Punalur Paper Mills are prepared to take up the question of starting a paper factory at or near Alwaye as soon as machinery can be imported from abroad which can only be after the war. This will be on a scale large enough to consume all the reeds available in Nariamangalam-Pallivasal areas.

16. *Question.*

With reference to the rush of expenditure as explained at page 91 of the Report, will the Government be pleased to state;—

(*a*) Why the rules which fix the proportion of expenditure on works in different quarters have been violated:

(*b*) The action taken against the officers of the Department who were responsible for the breach of the rule?

Answer.

(*a*) & (*b*) The Chief Engineer has reported that the rules are being observed to the nearest approximation as far as circumstances would permit and that no action was deemed necessary against the Officers of the department in the matter as the proportion was not kept up only in cases where it could not be so maintained owing to circumstances beyond their control.

APPENDIX No. III.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 26-11-1941.

The adjourned meeting of the Public Accounts Committee (for the year 1116 M. E.) was held at 11-30 A. M. on Wednesday the 26th November 1941 in the Public Offices, Trivandrum, under the presidency of M. R. Ry. *Rajyasevapravina* G. Parameswaran Pill, Avl., Ag. Chief Secretary to Government.

The following members were present:—

Messrs.

1. A. Lakshminarayana Ayyar, Financial Secretary to Government,
2. Puliyoor T. P. Velayudhan Pillai,
3. Varkala K. Madhavan, and
4. P. R. Goda Varma Raja.

1. As the Director of Industries and the Ceramic Expert could not be present in town owing to urgent official business elsewhere and as the Chairman offered to give sufficient explanation regarding any question that concerned them their examination was dispensed with.

Trade Agency at Bombay.

2. On the question of the furnishing of accounts by the Trade Agent at Bombay, which was raised at the last meeting, the agreement with him, referred to in the Audit Report, was examined by the Committee it was seen that the agreement provided that the Trade Agent should furnish weekly accounts to a person authorised in that behalf. The omission on the part of the Director of Industries to bring to the notice of Government the failure of the Trade Agent to so furnish accounts was noted.

Ceramic Expert.

3. Mr. Velayudhan Pillai brought again to the notice of the Committee the very unsatisfactory state of affairs as disclosed in para 3, page 119, of the Audit Report for 1115, and suggested that the management of the factory must be placed on a satisfactory footing. He also suggested that the administrative control of the Factory at Kundara should be taken away from the Ceramic Expert.

The Chairman answered that the whole question was now under the active consideration of Government.

Rush of expenditure at the close of a year.

4. Mr. Velayudhan Pillai brought to the notice of the Committee that the rush of expenditure referred to at page 91 of the Audit Report should be avoided and that the rule regarding the proportion of expenditure for each quarter should be enforced. He stated that on account of the violation of this rule, there was considerable wastage of money and that avoidable expenditure was being incurred. The Chief Engineer's explanation that the rule was being observed to the nearest

approximation and that the proportion was being maintained wherever possible and that if in any case it was not maintained it was owing to circumstances beyond the control of the department was stated to be unacceptable.

The Financial Secretary pointed out that action was being taken and a rigid observance of the rules already laid down in this behalf was being insisted upon. The department was being circularised in regard to this matter.

New Theatres' Cinema Shed.

5. A question put by Mr. P. R. Goda Varma Raja was read and answered. The question and answer are given in the annexure.

Agricultural Loans.

6. The detailed statements required by the Committee at its last meeting, and now furnished by the Land Revenue Department, regarding the expenditure on agricultural loans, were examined by the Committee, and recorded.

Congratulations to the Chairman.

7. Mr. Velayudhan Pillai, on behalf of the Committee spoke as follows:—

"Before concluding the proceedings, on behalf of the non-official members of the Committee, I beg to tender my heart-felt thanks to the Chief Secretary, who had the privilege of presiding over the deliberations of the Public Accounts Committee, for his sincere solicitude and uniform courtesy in satisfactorily explaining all the points raised by the non-official members of the Committee. His vast and varied experience as a responsible officer of the State, in different branches of the administration, and more especially as a patriotic non-official member of the Travancore Legislature, I trust have enabled him to appreciate the view points of the non-official members of the Committee. I also thank, on behalf of the non-official members, the Financial Secretary for the frank expression of facts and for his courteous behaviour towards us."

8. The Chairman thanked Mr. Velayudhan Pillai and the other non-official members for their kind personal reference to him, which he said, was wholly irrelevant and unnecessary. He said that before he came to the meeting, he had discussed the various questions with the Dewan and that he was only conveying to the Committee the instructions he had received from the Dewan. The Dewan was very much alive to the point raised by the Committee and they would receive the prompt and earnest attention of Government.

9. After reading the minutes of the meetings of the Public Accounts Committee, the Committee dispersed at 1-30 P. M.

ANNEXURE TO APPENDIX No. III.

Question for information on the Audit Report and Appropriation Accounts for 1115 by Mr. P. R. Goda Varma Raja.

Question.

Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) With reference to item (b), page 131, whether sanction was obtained before the department undertook to conduct the Cinema Shed.

(*b*) What are the terms of agreement;

(*c*) Whether additional cost could not be recovered from the party under the terms of the agreement;

(*d*) Who was responsible for the excess expenditure and what action has been taken against him?

Answer.

(*a*) No.

(*b*) A copy of the agreement is appended.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) The work was done at the instance of the then Director of Development for demonstration purposes and so it was not deemed necessary to recover the excess expenditure.

Copy of the Agreement.

Agreement entered into this day the 4th October 1939/18th Kanni 1115 between the Director of Development acting for and on behalf of the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore (hereinafter called 'the Director of Development') of the one part and the Imperial Trading Co., Trivandrum (Proprietors 'New Theatres' opposite Trivandrum Central Railway Station, Trivandrum) of the other part.

Whereas the Imperial Trading Co., Trivandrum (Proprietors 'New Theatres', Trivandrum) have agreed to purchase one Ascu pressure treated wooden shed having a floor space of 80' × 50' with columns of casuarina and with a clear span of 50'. The roof shall be of treated wood surmounted by wooden planking and covered with roofing felt. At either ends brick walls 8' high and 4" thick with necessary wooden frames will be provided. The sides of the shed shall remain open. The ceiling will be provided with a coat of fireproof paint and all iron and steel work with one coat of asphalt paint.

Whereas the Imperial Trading Co., Trivandrum (Proprietors 'New Theatres') have agreed to pay a sum of B. Rs. 3,500 (British rupees three thousand five hundred) for the above shed erected in position.

Whereas the Imperial Trading Co., Trivandrum (Proprietors 'New Theatres') have agreed to deposit as guarantee under 'Revenue deposit' the full amount of B. Rs. 3,500 (British rupees three thousand five hundred) into the Trivandrum Divisional Treasury and produce the chalan receipt to the Director before the Development Department

takes up the construction work of the shed. Necessary Chalan, in triplicate, for depositing the amount will be issued duly countersigned by the Director of Development.

Whereas they have agreed that after completion of the said work and handing over of the shed, the department is at liberty to adjust the value of the shed *viz.*, B. Rs. 3,500 (British rupees three thousand five hundred) from the guarantee deposit.

Whereas the firm has agreed that in the matter of specification regarding construction etc., and manufacture and erection of the shed, the decision of the Director of Development shall be final.

Now these presents witness that for carrying out the said agreement into execution the Imperial Trading Co., (Proprietors, 'New Theatres', Trivandrum) of the one part and the Director of Development acting for and on behalf of the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore and his successors in office of the other part do hereby mutually contract and covenant with the other and others of them.

(Sd.) P. Subramanyam,

Proprietor, The Imperial Trading Co., Trivandrum.

(Sd.) S. Kamesam,

Director of Development.

Annexure II.

REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE TRAVANCORE OFFICIAL TRUSTEE BILL.

To

The President,

Sri Mulam Assembly, Trivandrum.

Sir,

We, the undersigned members of the Select Committee appointed to consider The Travancore Official Trustee Bill, have considered the Bill clause by clause, and beg to submit the following

REPORT.

The Bill was published in the Gazette dated 10th March 1942.

The Committee have no changes to make, and the Bill, as published, may be adopted.

In respect of the qualifications prescribed under sub-clause (2) of Clause 2, Mr. T. P. Velayudhan Pillai pointed out that vakils should also be made eligible for appointment along with the advocates enrolled by the High Court. The Committee did not accept this view.

Certain printing mistakes noticed by the Committee have been corrected. Since no material alterations have been made, the Committee are of the view that there is no necessity to republish the Bill.
1st June 1942.

(Sd.) S. Chattanatha Karayalar (Chairman)
„ N. Ramakrishna Pillai.
„ P. Vivekanandam.
„ Puliyoor T. P. Velayudhan Pillai.
„ M. Sivathanu Pillai.
„ K. Kunju Panikkar.
„ Joseph Vithayathil.
„ G. Velu Pillai.
„ Devaki Antharjanam.
„ K. R. Narayanan.
„ N. V. Joseph.
„ P. S. Mahomed.
„ K. C. Karunakaran.
„ J. Whiteley Tolson.
„ S. Krishna Pillai.
„ T. C. Kesava Pillai.

DISSENTING MINUTE BY MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI.

Sub-clause (2) of Clause 2 of the Bill seeks to exclude for ever by statutory law all other persons excepting advocates and Government servants from being appointed as an Official Trustee. I am decidedly of

the opinion that the practising vakils who are members of the same profession as advocates should also be declared eligible for appointment as an Official Trustee. No advocate or Government servant can claim to be appointed as an Official Trustee as a matter of right. And, as such, the discretion vests in Government to decide who is competent and who is not. Under such circumstances, if the Government think that a practising vakil is sufficiently competent to be appointed as an Official Trustee, it is only just and fair that Government should have the power to appoint such person.

Sub-clause (2) (*a*) of Clause 2 deals with advocates enrolled by the High Court. I may be permitted to state in this connection that as a result of the operation of the Bar Council Act certain class of vakils are also now enrolled by the High Court. It will, therefore, be only in the fitness of things that at least those vakils who are enrolled by the High Court are also brought within the category of persons eligible for the purpose.

It is also significant to note that no additional safeguards or qualifications are prescribed in respect of advocates in regard to their standing or income.

Sub-clause (2) (*b*) of Clause 2 lends considerable support to my contention as it seeks to enable the Government to appoint any Government servant as an Official Trustee irrespective of his position or salary as an official. I would, therefore, maintain that the practising vakils should also be included in sub-clause (2) of clause 2 of the Bill.

V. S. Arumukham Pillai,
Secretary to the Sri Mulam Assembly.

Office of the Secretary to the
Sri Mulam Assembly,
Trivandrum, 1st June 1942.

Annexure III.

THE TRAVANCORE OFFICIAL TRUSTEE BILL.

(As revised by the Select Committee.)

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF AN OFFICIAL TRUSTEE.

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THE TRAVANCORE OFFICIAL TRUSTEE ACT, 1118.

(As revised by the Select Committee.)

An Act to provide for the appointment of an Official Trustee.

Preamble.

WHEREAS it is expedient to provide for the appointment of an Official Trustee;

It is hereby enacted as follows:—

PART I.

PRELIMINARY.

Short title, extent and commencement.

1. (1) This Act may be called the Travancore Official Trustee Act, 1117.

(2) It extends to the whole of Travancore.

(3) It shall come into force on such date as Our Government, by notification in Our Government Gazette, may direct.

PART II.

THE OFFICE OF OFFICIAL TRUSTEE.

Official Trustee.

2. (1) Our Government shall appoint an Official Trustee.

(2) No person shall be appointed to the office of Official Trustee who is not—

(a) an Advocate enrolled by Our High Court; or

(b) a person already in the service of Our Government.

Appointment and powers of Deputy Official Trustee.

3. Our Government may appoint a Deputy or Deputies to assist the Official Trustee; and any Deputy so appointed shall, subject to the control of Our Government and the general or special orders of the Official Trustee, be competent to discharge any of the duties and exercise any of the powers of the Official Trustee, and, when discharging such duties or exercising such powers, shall have the same privileges and be subject to the same liabilities as the Official Trustee.

4. The Official Trustee shall be a corporation sole by the name of the Official Trustee and as such Official Trustee, shall have perpetual succession and an official seal, and may sue and be sued in his corporate name.

Official Trustee to be corporation sole, to have perpetual succession and official seal, and to sue and be sued in his corporate name.

PART III.

RIGHTS, POWERS, DUTIES AND LIABILITIES OF OFFICIAL TRUSTEE.

5. (1) Subject to, and in accordance with, the provisions of this Act and the rules made thereunder, the Official Trustee may, if he thinks fit,—

General powers and duties of Official Trustee.

(a) act as an ordinary trustee;

(b) be appointed trustee by a Court of competent jurisdiction.

(2) Save as hereinafter expressly provided, the Official Trustee shall have the same powers, duties and liabilities, and be entitled to the same rights and privileges and be subject to the same control and orders of the Court as any other trustee acting in the same capacity.

(3) The Official Trustee may decline, either absolutely or except on such conditions as he may impose, to accept any trust.

(4) The Official Trustee shall not accept any trust under any composition or scheme of arrangement for the benefit of creditors, nor of any estate known or believed by him to be insolvent.

(5) The Official Trustee shall not, save as provided by any rules made under this Act, accept any trust for any religious purpose or any trust which involves the management or carrying on of any business.

(6) The Official Trustee shall not administer the estate of a deceased person, unless he is expressly appointed sole executor of, and sole trustee under, the will of such person.

(7) The Official Trustee shall always be sole trustee, and it shall not be lawful to appoint the Official Trustee to be trustee along with any other person.

6. (1) Any person intending to create a trust other than a trust which the Official Trustee is prohibited from accepting under the provisions of this Act may by the instrument creating the trust and with the consent of the Official Trustee, appoint him by that name or any other sufficient description to be the trustee of the property subject to such trust :

Official Trustee may with consent be appointed trustee of settlement by grantor.

Provided that the consent of the Official Trustee shall be recited in the said instrument and that such instrument shall be duly executed by the Official Trustee.

(2) Upon such appointment the property subject to the trust shall vest in such Official Trustee, and shall be held by him upon the trusts declared in such instrument.

7. When the Official Trustee has by that name or any other sufficient description been appointed trustee under any will, the executor of the will of the testator or the administrator of his estate shall, after obtaining probate or letters of administration, notify in the prescribed manner the contents of such will to such Official Trustee; and, if such Official Trustee consents to accept the trust, then upon the execution by such executor or administrator of an instrument in writing transferring the property subject to the trust to the Official Trustee, such property shall vest in such Official Trustee, and shall be held by him upon the trusts expressed in the said will:

Appointment of Official Trustee as trustee by will.

Provided that the consent of the Official Trustee shall be recited in the said instrument and that such instrument shall be duly executed by the Official Trustee.

8. (1) If any property is subject to a trust other than a trust which the Official Trustee is prohibited from accepting under the provisions of this Act, and there is no trustee within Travancore willing or capable to act in the trust, Our High Court may, on application, make an order for the appointment of the Official Trustee by that name with his consent to be the trustee of such property.

Power of High Court to appoint Official Trustee to be trustee of property.

(2) Upon such order such property shall vest in the Official Trustee and shall be held by him upon the same trusts as the same was held previously to such order, and the previous trustee or trustees (if any) shall be exempt from liability as trustees of such property save in respect of acts done before the date of such order.

9. (1) If any property is subject to a trust other than a trust which the Official Trustee is prohibited from accepting under the provisions of this Act, and all the trustees or the surviving or continuing trustee or trustees and all persons beneficially interested in the trust are desirous that the Official Trustee shall be appointed in the room of such trustee or trustees, it shall be lawful for such trustee or trustees, by an instrument in writing to appoint the Official Trustee by that name or any other sufficient description with his consent to be the trustee of such property:

Power of private trustees to appoint Official Trustee to be trustee of property.

Provided that the consent of the Official Trustee shall be recited in the said instrument and that such instrument shall be duly executed by him.

(2) Upon such appointment such property shall vest in the Official Trustee and shall be held by him upon the same trusts as the same was held previously to such appointment, and the previous trustee or trustees shall be exempt from all liability as trustees of such property save in respect of acts done before the date of such appointment.

10. (1) If any infant or lunatic is entitled to any gift, legacy or share of the assets of a deceased person, it shall be lawful for the person by whom such gift is made, or executor or administrator by whom such legacy or share is payable or transferable or any trustee of such gift, legacy or share, to transfer the same by an instrument in writing to the Official Trustee by that name or any other sufficient description with his consent:

Executor or administrator may pay to Official Trustee legacy, share, etc., of infant or lunatic.

Provided that the consent of the Official Trustee shall be recited in the said instrument and that such instrument shall be duly executed by the Official Trustee.

(2) Any money or property transferred to the Official Trustee under this section shall vest in him and shall be subject to the same provisions as are contained in this Act as to other property vested in such Official Trustee.

11. (1) No Official Trustee shall be required by any Court to enter into any bond or security on his appointment in any capacity under this Act.

Official Trustee not to be required to give bond or security.

(2) No Official Trustee or Deputy Official Trustee shall be required to verify otherwise than by his signature any petition presented by him under the provisions of this Act, and if the facts stated in any such petition are not within the Official Trustee's personal knowledge, the petition may be verified and subscribed by any person competent to make the verification.

Entry of Official Trustee not to constitute notice of a trust.

12. The entry of the Official Trustee by that name in the books of a company shall not constitute notice of a trust; and a company shall not be entitled to object to enter the name of the Official Trustee on its register by reason only that the Official Trustee is a corporation; and, in dealing with property, the fact that the person dealt with is the Official Trustee shall not of itself constitute notice of a trust.

Liability of Government.

13. The revenues of Our Government shall be liable to make good all sums required to discharge any liability which the Official Trustee, if he were a private trustee, would be personally liable to discharge, except when the liability is one to which neither the Official Trustee nor any of his officers has in any way contributed or which neither he nor any of his officers could by the exercise of reasonable diligence have averted, and in either of those cases the Official Trustee shall not, nor shall the revenues of Our Government be subject to any liability.

Notice of suit not required in certain cases.

14. Nothing in Section 65 of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1100, shall apply to any suit against the Official Trustee in which no relief is claimed against him personally.

PART IV.

Fees.

Fees.

15. (1) There shall be charged in respect of the duties of the Official Trustee such fees, whether by way of percentage or otherwise, as Our Government may prescribe.

(2) The fees under this section may be at different rates for different properties or classes of properties or for different duties, and shall, so far as may be, be arranged so as to produce an amount sufficient to discharge the salaries and all other expenses incidental to the working of this Act (including such sum as Our Government may determine to be required to insure the revenues of Our Government against loss under this Act).

16. (1) All expenses which might be retained or paid out of the trust fund, if the Official Trustee were a private trustee, shall be so retained or paid, and any fees leviable under this Act shall be retained or paid in like manner as and in addition to such expenses.

Disposal of fees.

(2) The Official Trustee shall transfer and pay to such authority and in such manner and at such times as Our Government may prescribe, all fees received by him under this Act, and the same shall be carried to the account and credit of Our Government.

PART V.

AUDIT.

17. (1) The accounts of the Official Trustee shall be audited at least once annually and at any other time if Our Government so direct by the prescribed person and in the prescribed manner.

Auditors to be appointed to examine Official Trustee's accounts, etc., and to report to Government.

(2) The auditor shall examine such accounts and shall forward to Our Government a statement thereof in the prescribed form, together with a report thereon and a certificate signed by him showing—

(a) whether the accounts contain a full and true account of everything which ought to be contained therein, and

(b) whether the books, which by any rules made under this Act are directed to be kept by the Official Trustee, have been duly and regularly kept, and

(c) whether the trust funds and securities have been duly kept and invested and deposited in the manner prescribed by this Act or any rules made thereunder;

or (as the case may be) that such accounts are deficient, or that the Official Trustee has failed to comply with this Act or the rules made thereunder in such respects as may be specified in such certificate.

18. (1) Every auditor shall have the powers of a Civil Court under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1100,

Auditor's power to summon witnesses and to call for documents.

(a) to summon any person whose presence he may think necessary to attend him from time to time, and

(b) to examine any person on oath to be by him administered, and

(c) to issue a commission for the examination on interrogatories or otherwise of any person, and

(d) to summon any person to produce any document or thing the production of which appears to be necessary for the purposes of such audit or examination.

(2) Any person who, when summoned, refuses, or without reasonable cause neglects, to attend or to produce any document or thing or attends and refuses to be sworn, or to be examined shall be deemed to have committed an offence within the meaning of, and punishable under, Section 181 of the Travancore Penal Code, and the auditor shall report every case of such refusal or neglect to Our Government.

Cost of audit, etc., how paid.

19. The cost of and incidental to every such audit and examination shall be determined in accordânce with the rules made by Our Government and shall be defrayed in the prescribed manner.

Right of beneficiary to inspection and copies of accounts.

20. Every beneficiary under a trust which is being administered by the Official Trustee shall, subject to such conditions and restrictions as may be prescribed, be entitled, at all reasonable times, to inspect the accounts of such trust, and the report and certificate of the auditor and, on payment of the prescribed fee, to be furnished with copies thereof or extracts therefrom.

PART VI.

Miscellaneous.

Transfer to Government of accumulations in the hands of Official Trustee.

21. When any moneys payable to a beneficiary under a trust have been in the hands of the Official Trustee for a period of twelve years or upwards in consequence of the Official Trustee having been unable to trace the person entitled to receive the same, such moneys shall be transferred in the prescribed manner to the account and credit of Our Government:

Provided that no such moneys shall be so transferred if any suit or proceeding is pending in respect thereof in any Court.

22. (1) If any claim is made to any moneys so transferred and such claim is established to the satisfaction of the prescribed authority, Our Government shall pay to the claimant the amount in respect of which the claim is established.

Mode of proceeding by claimant to recover money so transferred.

(2) If such claim is not established to the satisfaction of the prescribed authority, the claimant may, without prejudice to his right to take any other proceedings for the recovery of such moneys, apply by petition to Our High Court against Our Government and, after taking such evidence as it thinks fit, such Court shall make such order on the petition in regard to the payment of such moneys as it thinks fit, and such order shall be binding on all parties to the proceedings.

(3) The Court may further direct by whom all or any part of the costs of such proceedings shall be paid.

23. Our High Court may make such orders as it thinks fit respecting any trust property vested in the Official Trustee, or the interest or produce thereof.

Power of High Court to make orders in respect of property vested in Official Trustee.

24. Any order under this Act may be made, on the application of any person beneficially interested in any trust property or of any trustee thereof.

Who may apply for order under Act.

25. Any order made by Our High Court under this Act shall have the same effect as a decree.

Order of Court to have effect of a decree.

26. The Official Trustee may, in addition to and not in derogation of any other powers of expenditure lawfully exercisable by him, incur expenditure—

General powers of administration.

(*a*) on such acts as may be necessary for the proper care and management of any property belonging to any trust administered by him; and

(*b*) with the sanction of Our High Court on such religious, charitable and other objects and on such improvements as may be reasonable and proper in the case of such property.

27. (1) Nothing in this Act shall be deemed to prevent the transfer by the Official Trustee of any property vested in him to—

Transfer of trust property by Official Trustee to original trustee or any other trustee.

(*a*) the original trustee (if any); or

(*b*) any other lawfully appointed trustee; or

(*c*) any other person if the Court so directs.

(2) Upon such transfer such property shall vest in such trustee, and shall be held by him upon the same trusts as those upon which it was held prior to such transfer, and the Official Trustee shall be exempt from all liability as trustee of such property except in respect of acts done before such transfer:

Provided that, in the case of any transfer under this section, the Official Trustee shall be entitled to retain out of the property any fees leviable in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

28. (1) Our Government shall make rules for carrying into effect the objects of this Act and for regulating the proceedings of the Official Trustee in the discharge of his duties.

Rules.

(2) In particular and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such rules may provide for—

(*a*) the accounts to be kept by the Official Trustee and the audit and inspection thereof;

(*b*) the safe custody, and deposit of the funds and securities which come into the hands of the Official Trustee;

(*c*) the remittance of sums of money in the hands of the Official Trustee in cases in which such remittances are required;

(*d*) the statements, schedules and other documents to be submitted by the Official Trustee to Our Government or to any other authority and the publication of such statements, schedules or other documents;

(*e*) the realisation of the cost of preparing any such statements, schedules or other documents;

(*f*) subject to the provisions of this Act, the fees to be paid thereunder and the collection and accounting for any fees so fixed;

(*g*) the manner in which and the person by whom the costs of and incidental to any audit under the provisions of this Act are to be determined and defrayed;

(*h*) the manner in which summonses issued under the provisions of Section 18 are to be served and the payment of the expenses of any persons summoned or examined under the provisions of this Act and of any expenditure incidental to such examination;

(*i*) the acceptance by the Official Trustee of trusts for religious purposes and trusts which involve the management or carrying on of business; and

(*j*) any matter in this Act directed to be prescribed.

(3) Rules made under the provisions of this Section shall be published in Our Government Gazette, and shall thereupon have effect as if enacted in this Act.

Saving of provisions of the Travancore Registration Act, 1087.

29. Nothing contained in this Act shall be deemed to affect the provisions of the Travancore Registration Act, 1087.

Office of the Secretary to the
Sri Mulam Assembly,
Trivandrum, 1st June 1942.

V. S. Arumukhom Pillay,
Secretary to the Sri Mulam Assembly.

Annexure IV

REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE TRAVANCORE ADMINISTRATOR GENERAL'S BILL.

To

The President,

The Sri Mulam Assembly.

Sir,

We, the undersigned members of the Select Committee appointed to consider the Administrator General's Bill have considered the Bill clause by clause and beg to submit this our

REPORT.

The Bill was published in the Government Gazette dated 10th March 1942.

The Committee, after a careful consideration of the provisions relating to the powers of the Administrator General have come to the conclusion that the powers proposed to be conferred on the Administrator General are very extensive and that it would be expedient if for the present such powers are limited in certain respects. The Probate and Administration Act enables persons interested in the assets of deceased persons to apply for and obtain probate and letters of administration. That is merely permissive in its nature and does not cast any obligation on any person to obtain probate or letters of administration in any case. That being the case the scope of the mandatory provision contained in clause 9 should be restricted. The Committee are therefore of the view that the Administrator General's functions should be confined to cases where in public interests he should intervene for the protection of estates of deceased persons. Hence in clause 9, for the words commencing with "and if no person to whom any Court would have jurisdiction" and ending with "administration of his estate", the following words have been substituted, namely;—

> "and if the Administrator General is satisfied that there is no person immediately available who is legally entitled to the succession to such assets or that danger is to be apprehended of misappropriation, deterioration or waste of such assets before it can be determined who may be legally entitled to the succession thereto".

As a consequence of this change, clause 13 has been omitted and subsequent clauses renumbered.

Clauses 27 to 34 occurring under the heading "(d) grant of certificates" empower the Administrator General to issue a certificate in the case of assets not exceeding Rs. 1000 in value to any person interested in the administration and also to administer it himself without obtaining letters of administration.

For the reasons stated above, the Committee have decided to omit these clauses. Consequential changes have been made in the succeeding clauses.

Clause 50 casts an obligation on District Judges to make reports to the Administrator General of occurrences of death within their jurisdiction and empowers the Court to take certain summary proceedings in such cases. The Committee are of the view that this provision also is unnecessary.

In clause 52 renumbered 42, for the words "on the application to such Court of any consular officer of such foreign State be granted to such consular officer" the following words have been substituted, namely:—

> "on the application to such Court of any consular officer of such foreign State or such officer as may be authorised in that behalf under a law for the time being in force in such foreign State be granted to such officer."

Printing mistakes and clerical errors occurring in the Bill noticed by the Committee have been corrected in the copy of the Bill herewith attached.

Though changes have been made in the Bill, the Committee are of the view that these changes are not such as to necessitate a re-publication of the Bill. The Committee are therefore of the view that the Bill as revised need not be republished.

(Sd.) S. Chattanatha Karayalar (Chairman)
" M. L. Janardhana Pillai
" P. Narayana Pillai
" P. Kunjukrishnan
" D. Francis
" P. Sivarama Pillai
" S. Narayana Pillai
" P. C. Adichan
" T. T. Kesava Sastri
" C. Jebamony Nadar
" E. E. Pandarathil
" N. Narayana Kurup
" N. Ramakrishna Pillai
" S. Krishna Pillai
" K. P. Kochukora Tharakan

Office of the Secretary to the Sri
Mulam Asssemly, Trivandrum,
11th July 1942.

V. S. ARUMUKHOM PILLAY,
Secretary to the Sri Mulam Assembly.

Annexure V.

THE TRAVANCORE ADMINISTRATOR-GENERAL'S BILL.

(*As revised by the Select Committee*).

[The words in italics indicate the amendments made by the Committee.]

A BILL TO PROVIDE FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF AN ADMINISTRATOR-GENERAL.

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A BILL TO PROVIDE FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF AN ADMINISTRATOR-GENERAL.

Preamble.

WHEREAS it is expedient to provide for the appointment of an Administrator-General: It is hereby enacted as follows:—

PART I.

PRELIMINARY.

Short title, extent and commencement.

1. (1) This Act may be called the Travancore Administrator-General's Act, 111 —

(2) It extends to the whole of Travancore.

(3) It shall come into force on such date as Our Government may, by notification in Our Government Gazette, direct.

Interpretation clause.

2. In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context:—

(1) "assets" means all the property, movable and immovable, of a deceased person, which is chargeable with, and applicable to, the payment of his debts and legacies, or available for distribution among his heirs and next-of-kin;

(2) "Letters of Administration" includes any letters of administration, whether general or with a copy of the will annexed, or limited in time or otherwise;

(3) "next-of-kin" includes a widower or widow of a deceased person, or any other person who by law would be entitled to letters of administration in preference to a creditor or legatee of the deceased;

(4) "Prescribed" means prescribed by rules under this Act.

PART II.

THE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATOR-GENERAL.

Appointment and designation of the Administrator-General.

3. (1) Our Government shall appoint an Administrator-General for the whole of Travancore.

(2) No person shall be appointed to the office of Administrator-General who is not—

(a) an Advocate enrolled by Our High Court; or

(b) a person already in the service of Our Government.

4. Our Government may appoint a Deputy or Deputies to assist the Administrator-General; and any Deputy so appointed shall, subject to the control of Our Government and the general or special orders of the Administrator-General, be competent to discharge any of the duties and to exercise any of the powers of the Administrator-General, and when discharging such duties or exercising such powers shall have the same privileges and be subject to the same liabilities as the Administrator-General.

Appointment and powers of Deputy Administrators-General.

5. The Administrator-General shall be a corporation sole by the name of the Administrator-General, and, as such Administrator-General, shall have perpetual succession and an official seal, and may sue and be sued in his corporate name.

Administrator-General to be a corporation sole, to have perpetual succession and official seal, and to sue and be sued in his corporate name.

PART III.

Rights, powers, duties and liabilities of the Administrator-General.

(*a*) Grants of Letters of Administration and Probate.

6. So far as regards the Administrator-General Our High Court shall be deemed to be a Court of competent jurisdiction for the purpose of granting probate or letters of administration under any law for the time being in force.

As regards Administrator—General, High Court to be deemed a Court of competent jurisdiction for the purpose of granting probate or letters of administration.

7. Any letters of administration, which are granted after the commencement of this Act by Our High Court shall be granted to the Administrator-General unless they are granted to the next-of-kin of the deceased.

Administrator-General entitled to letters of administration, unless granted to next-of-kin.

8. The Administrator-General shall be deemed by all Courts to have a right to letters of administration other than letters *pendente lite* in preference to that of—

Administrator-General entitled to letters of administration in preference to creditor, non-universal legatee or friend.

(*a*) a creditor ; or

(*b*) a legatee other than an universal legatee ; or

(*c*) a friend of the deceased.

9. If any person has died leaving within Travancore assets exceeding the value of one thousand rupees *and if the Administrator-General is satisfied that there is no person immediately available who is legally entitled to the succession to such assets or that danger is to be apprehended of misappropriation, deterioration or waste of such assets before it can be determined who may be legally entitied to the succession thereto.*

When Administrator-General is to administer estates of persons.

the Administrator-General shall, subject to any rules made by Our Government, within a reasonable time after he has had notice of the death of such person, and of his having left such assets, take such proceedings as may be necessary to obtain from Our High Court letters of administration of the estate of such person.

10. (1) Whenever any person has died leaving assets in Travancore, and Our High Court is satisfied that there is no person immediately available, who is legally entitled to the succession to such assets, or that danger is to be apprehended of misappropriation, deterioration or waste of such assets, before it can be determined who may be legally entitled to the succession thereto, or whether the Administrator-General is entitled to letters of administration of the estate of such deceased person,

Power to direct Administrator-General to collect and hold assets until right of succession or administration is determined.

the Court may, upon the application of the Administrator-General or of any person interested in such assets, or in the due administration thereof, forthwith direct the Administrator-General to collect and take possession of such assets, and to hold, deposit, realise, sell or invest the same according to the direction of the Court, and in default of any such directions according to the provisions of this Act so far as the same are applicable to such assets.

(2) Any order of the Court made under the provisions of this section shall entitle the Administrator-General,

(*a*) to maintain any suit or proceeding for the recovery of such assets, and

(*b*) if he thinks fit, to apply for letters of administration of the estate of such deceased person, and

(*c*) to retain out of the assets of the estate any fees chargeable under rules made under this Act, and to reimburse himself for all payments made by him in respect of such assets which a private administrator might lawfully have made.

Grant of probate or letters of administration to person appearing in the course of proceedings taken by Administrator-General under Sections 9 and 10.

11. If, in the course of proceedings to obtain letters of administration under the provisions of Section 9 or Section 10, any person appears and establishes his claim—

(*a*) to probate of the will of the deceased; or

(*b*) to letters of administration as next-of-kin of the deceased, and gives such security as may be required of him by law,

the Court shall grant probate of the will or letters of administration accordingly, and shall award to the Administrator-General the cost of any proceedings taken by him, under those sections to be paid out of the estate as part of the testamentary or intestate expenses thereof.

Grant of administration to Administrator-General in certain cases.

12. If, in the course of proceedings to obtain letters of administration under the provisions of Section 9 or Section 10, no person appears and establishes his claim to probate of a will, or to a grant of letters of administration as next-of-kin of the deceased, within such period as to the Court seems reasonable,

or if a person who has established his claim to a grant of letters of administration as next-of-kin of the deceased fails to give such security as may be required of him by law,

the Court may grant letters of administration to the Administrator-General.

(b) Revocation of Grants.

Recall of Administrator-General's administration and grant of probate, etc., to executor or next-of-kin.

13. If an executor or next-of-kin of the deceased, who has not been personally served with a citation or who has not had notice thereof, in time to appear pursuant thereto establishes to the satisfaction of the Court a claim to probate of a will or to letters of administration in preference to the Administrator-General, any letters of administration granted in accordance with the provisions of this Act to the Administrator-General may be revoked, and probate or letters of administration may be granted to such executor or next-of-kin, as the case may be:

Provided that no letters of administration granted to the Administrator-General shall be revoked for the cause aforesaid, except in cases in which a will of the deceased is proved unless the application for that purpose is made within six months after the grant to the Administrator-General and the Court is satisfied that there has been no unreasonable delay in making the application, or in transmitting the authority under which the application is made.

Cost of obtaining administration, etc., may, on revocation, be ordered to be paid to Administrator-General out of assets.

14. If any letters of administration granted to the Administrator-General in accordance with the provisions of this Act are revoked, the Court may order the costs of obtaining such letters of administration, and the whole or any part of any fees which would otherwise have been payable under this Act, together with the costs of the Administrator-General in any proceedings taken to obtain such revocation, to be paid to or retained by the Administrator-General out of the estate:

Provided that nothing in this section shall affect the provisions of clause *(c)* of sub-section (2) of Section 10.

After revocation, letters granted to Administrator-General to be deemed as to him to have been voidable only.

15. If any letters of administration granted to the Administrator-General in accordance with the provisions of this Act are revoked, the same shall, so far as regards the Administrator-General and all persons acting under his authority in pursuance thereof, be deemed to have been only voidable, except as to any act done by such Administrator-General or other person as aforesaid, after notice of a will or of any other fact which would render such letters void:

Provided that no notice of a will or of any other fact which would render any such letters void shall affect the Administrator-General or any person acting under his authority in pursuance of

such letters unless, within the period of one month from the time of giving such notice, proceedings are commenced to prove the will, or to cause the letters to be revoked, and such proceedings are prosecuted without unreasonable delay.

Payments made by Administrator-General prior to revocation.

16. If any letters of administration granted to the Administrator-General in accordance with the provisions of this Act are revoked, upon the grant of probate of a will, or upon the grant of letters of administration with a copy of the will annexed, all payments made or acts done by or under the authority of the Administrator-General in pursuance of such letters of administration, prior to the revocation, which would have been valid under any letters of administration lawfully granted to him with a copy of such will annexed shall be deemed valid notwithstanding such revocation,

(*c*) *General.*

Administrator-General's petition or grant of letters of administration.

17. Whenever the Administrator-General applies for letters of administration in accordance with the provisions of this Act, it shall be sufficient if the petition required to be presented for the grant of such letters states,

(i) the time and place of the death of the deceased to the best of the knowledge and belief of the petitioner,
(ii) the names and addresses of the surviving next-of-kin of the deceased, if known,
(iii) the particulars and value of the assets likely to come into the hands of the petitioner,
(iv) particulars of the liabilities of the estate, if known.

Name in which probate or letters to be granted.

18. All probates or letters of administration granted to the Administrator-General shall be granted to him by that name.

Effect of probate or letters granted to Administrator-General.

19. Probate or letters of administration granted by Our High Court to the Administrator-General shall have effect over all the assets of the deceased throughout Travancore and shall be conclusive as to the representative title against all debtors of the deceased and all persons holding such assets, and shall afford full indemnity to all debtors paying their debts and all persons delivering up such assets to such Administrator-General.

20. (1) Any private executor or administrator may, with the previous consent of the Administrator-General in respect of assets for which such executor or administrator has obtained probate or letters of administration, by an instrument in writing under his hand notified in Our Government Gazette, transfer the assets of the estate vested in him by virtue of such probate or letters to the Administrator-General by that name or any other sufficient description.

Transfer by private executor or administrator of interest under probate or letters.

(2) As from the date of such transfer the transferor shall be exempt from all liability as such executor or administrator, as the cases may be, except in respect of acts done before the date of such transfer, and the Administrator-General shall have the rights which he would have had, and be subject to the liabilities to which he would have been subject, if the probate or letters of administration, as the case may be, had been granted to him by that name at the date of such transfer.

21. (1) When the Administrator-General has given the prescribed notice for creditors and others to send in to him their claims, against the estate of the deceased, he shall, at the expiration of the time therein named for sending in claims, be at liberty to distribute the assets or any part thereof in discharge of such lawful claims as he has notice of.

Distribution of assets.

(2) He shall not be liable for the assets so distributed to any person of whose claim he had not notice at the time of such distribution.

(3) No notice of any claim which has been sent in and has been rejected or disallowed in part by the Administrator-General shall affect him unless proceedings to enforce such claim are commenced within one month after notice of the rejection or disallowance of such claim has been given in the prescribed manner and unless such proceedings are prosecuted without unreasonable delay.

(4) Nothing in this section shall prejudice the right of any creditor or other claimant to follow the assets or any part thereof in the hands of the persons who may have received the same, respectively.

(5) In computing the period of limitation for any suit, appeal or application under the provisions of any law for the time being in force, the period between the date of submission of the claim of a creditor to the Administrator-General and the date of the final decision of the Administrator-General on such claim shall be excluded.

22. (1) When the Administrator-General has, so far as may be, discharged all the liabilities of an estate administered by him, he shall notify the fact in Our Government Gazette, and he may, by an instrument in writing, with the consent of the Official Trustee and subject to any rules made by Our Government, appoint the Official Trustee to be the trustee of any assets then remaining in his hands.

Appointment of Official Trustee as trustee of assets after completion of administration.

(2) Upon such appointment such assets shall vest in the Official Trustee as if he had been appointed trustee in accordance with the provisions of the Travancore Official Trustee Act, 1118, and shall be held by him upon the same trusts as the same were held immediately before such appointment.

23. (1) Our High Court may, on application made to it, give to the Administrator-General any general or special directions as to any estate in his charge or in regard to the administration of any such estate.

Power for High Court to give directions regarding administration of estate.

(2) Applications under sub-section (1) may be made by the Administrator-General or any person interested in the assets or in the due administration thereof.

24. (1) The Administrator-General shall not be required by the Court to enter into any administration-bond, or to give other security to the court, on the grant of any letters of administration to him by that name.

No security nor oath to be required from Administrator-General.

(2) The Administrator-General or any Deputy Administrator-General shall not be required to verify otherwise than by his signature, any petition presented by him under the provisions of this Act, and, if the facts stated in any such petition are not within the Administrator-General's own personal knowledge, the petition may be subscribed and verified by any person competent to make the verification.

Manner in which petition to be verified by Administrator-General and his Deputy.

(3) The entry of the Administrator-General by that name in the books of a Company shall not constitute notice of a trust, and a Company shall not be entitled to object to enter the name of the Administrator-General on its register by reason only that the Administrator-General is a corporation and in dealing with assets the fact that the person dealt with is the Administrator-General shall not of itself constitute notice of a trust.

Entry of Administrator-General not to constitute notice of a trust.

25. The Administrator-General may, whenever he desires for the purposes of this Act, to satisfy himself regarding any question of fact examine upon oath (which he is hereby authorised to administer) any person who is willing to be so examined by him regarding such question.

Power to examine on oath.

(d) *Liability.*

26. The revenues of Our Government shall be liable to make good all sums required to discharge any liability which the Administrator-General, if he were a private administrator, would be personally liable to discharge, except when the liability is one to which neither the Administrator-General nor any of his officers has in any way contributed, or which neither he nor any of his officers could, by the exercise of reasonable diligence have averted, and in either of those cases the Administrator-General shall not, nor shall the revenues of Our Government be subject to any liability.

Liability of Government.

27. (1) If any suit be brought by a creditor against the Administrator-General, such creditor shall be liable to pay the cost of the suit unless he proves that not less than one month previous to the institution of the suit he had applied in writing to the Administrator-General, stating the amount and other particulars of his claim, and had given such evidence in support thereof as, in the circumstances of the case, the Administrator-General was reasonably entitled to require.

Creditor's suits against Administrator-General.

(2) If any such suit is decreed in favour of the creditor, he shall, nevertheless, unless he is a secured creditor, be only entitled to payment out of the assets of the deceased equally and rateably with the other creditors.

28. Nothing in Section 65 of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1100 shall apply to any suit against the Administrator-General in which no relief is claimed against him personally.

Notice of suit not required in certain cases.

PART IV.

Fees.

29. (1) There shall be charged in respect of the duties of the Administrator-General such fees, whether by way of percentage or otherwise, as may be prescribed by Our Government.

Fees.

(2) The fees under this section may be at different rates for different estates or classes of estates or for different duties, and shall, so far as may be, be arranged so as to produce an amount sufficient to discharge the salaries and all other expenses incidental to the working of this Act (including such sum as Our Government may determine to be required to insure the revenues of Our Government against loss under this Act).

30. (1) Any expenses which might be retained or paid out of any estate in the charge of the Administrator-General, if he were a private administrator of such estate, shall be so retained or paid and the fees prescribed under Section 29 shall be retained or paid in like manner as and in addition to such expenses.

Disposal of fees.

(2) The Administrator-General shall transfer and pay to such authority, in such manner and at such time as Our Government may prescribe, all fees received by him under this Act, and the same shall be carried to the account and credit of Our Government.

PART V.

Audit of the Administrator-General's Accounts.

31. The accounts of the Administrator-General shall be audited at least once annually, and at any other time if Our Government so direct, by the prescribed person and in the prescribed manner.

Audit of Administrator-General's accounts.

32. The auditors shall examine the accounts and forward to Our Government a statement thereof in the prescribed form, together with a report thereon and a certificate signed by them showing—

Auditors to examine accounts and report to Government.

(*a*) whether they contain a full and true account of everything which ought to be inserted therein,

(*b*) whether the books which by any rules made under this Act are directed to be kept by the Administrator-General, have been duly and regularly kept, and

(*c*) whether the assets and securities have been duly kept and invested and deposited in the manner prescribed by this Act, or by any rules made thereunder, or (as the case may be) that such accounts are deficient, or that the Administrator-General has failed to comply with this Act or the rules made thereunder, in such respects as may be specified in such certificate.

33. (1) Every auditor shall have the powers of a Civil Court under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1100,—

Power of auditors to summon and examine witnesses, and to call for documents.

(a) to summon any person whose presence he thinks necessary to attend him from time to time; and

(b) to examine any person on oath to be by him administered; and

(c) to issue a commission for the examination on interrogatories or otherwise of any person; and

(d) to summon any person to produce any document or thing the production of which appears to be necessary for the purpose of such audit or examination.

(2) Any person who when summoned refuses, or without reasonable cause, neglects to attend or to produce any document or things or attends and refuses to be sworn, or to be examined, shall be deemed to have committed an offence within the meaning of and punishable under, Section 181 of the Travancore Penal Code, and the auditor shall report every case of such refusal or neglect to Our Government.

Costs of audit, etc.

34. The costs of and incidental to such audit and examination shall be determined in accordance with rules made by Our Government, and shall be defrayed in the prescribed manner.

PART VI.

Miscellaneous.

General powers of administration.

35. The Administrator-General may, in addition to, and not in derogation of, any other powers of expenditure lawfully exercisable by him, incur expenditure—

(a) on such acts as may be necessary for the proper care and management of any property belonging to any estate in his charge; and

(b) with the sanction of Our High Court on such religious, charitable and other objects, and on such improvements as may be reasonable and proper in the case of the property.

36. Any person interested in the administration of any estate, which is in the charge of the Administrator-General shall, subject to such conditions and restrictions as may be prescribed, be entitled at all reasonable times to inspect the accounts relating to such estate and the reports and certificates of the auditor, and on payment of the prescribed fee, to copies thereof and extracts therefrom.

Power of person beneficially interested to inspect Administrator-General's account, etc., and take copies.

37. (1) Our Government shall make rules for carrying into effect the objects of this Act and for regulating the proceedings of the Administrator-General.

Power to make rules.

(2) In particular and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such rules may provide for

(*a*) the accounts to be kept by the Administrator-General and the audit and inspection thereof,

(*b*) the safe custody, deposit and investment of assets and securities which come into the hands of the Administrator-General,

(*c*) the remittance of sums of money in the hands of the Administrator-General in cases in which such remittances are required,

(*d*) subject to the provisions of this Act, the fees to be paid under this Act, and the collection and accounting for any such fees,

(*e*) the statements, schedules and other documents to be submitted to Our Government or to any other authority by the Administrator-General, and the publication of such statements, schedules or other documents,

(*f*) the realisation of the cost of preparing any such statements, schedules or other such documents,

(*g*) the manner in which and the person by whom the costs of and incidental to any audit under the provisions of this Act are to be determined and defrayed,

(*h*) the manner in which summonses issued under the provisions of Section 33 are to be served and the payment of the expenses of any persons summoned or examined under the provisions of this Act and of any expenditure incidental to such examination, and

(*i*) any matter in this Act directed to be prescribed.

(3) All rules made under this Act shall be published in Our Government Gazette and on such publication, shall have effect as if enacted in this Act.

38. Whoever, during any examination authorised by this Act, makes upon oath a statement which is false and which he either knows or believes to be false or does not believe to be true, shall be deemed to have intentionally given false evidence in a stage of a judicial proceeding.

False evidence.

39. All assets in the charge of the Administrator-General which have been in his custody for a period of twelve years or upwards without any application for payment thereof having been made and granted by him shall be transferred, in the prescribed manner, to the account and credit of Our Government:

Assets unclaimed for twelve years to be transferred to Government.

Provided that this section shall not authorise the transfer of any such assets as aforesaid, if any suit or proceeding is pending in respect thereof in any Court.

40. (1) If any claim is made to any part of the assets transferred to the account and credit of Our Government under the provisions of this Act, and if such claim is established to the satisfaction of the prescribed authority, Our Government shall pay to the claimant the amount of the principal so transferred to its account and credit or so much thereof as appears to be due to the claimant.

Mode of proceeding by claimant to recover principal money so transferred.

(2) If the claim is not established to the satisfaction of the prescribed authority, the claimant may, without prejudice to his right to take any other proceedings for the recovery of such assets, apply by petition to Our High Court against Our Government and such Court, after taking such evidence as it thinks fit, shall make such order in regard to the payment of the whole or any part of the said principal sum as it thinks fit, and such order shall be binding on all parties to the proceeding.

(3) The court may further direct by whom the whole or any part of the cost of each party shall be paid.

41. Any order made under this Act by the Court shall have the same effect as a decree.

Order of Court to be equivalent to decree.

42. Notwithstanding anything in this Act, or in any other law for the time being in force, Our Government may, by general or special order, direct that, where a subject of a foreign State dies in Travancore, and it appears that there is no one in Travancore other than the Administrator-General, entitled to apply to the Court for letters of administration of the estate of the deceased, letters of administration shall, *on the application to such Court of any consular officer of such foreign State or such other officer as may be authorised in that behalf under any law for the time being in force in such foreign State be grantd to such officer*, on terms and conditions as the Court may subject to any rules made in this behalf by Our Government by notification in Our Government Gazette, think fit to impose.'

Provision for administration by Consular Officer in case of death in certain circumstances of foreign subject.

43. Nothing in this Act shall be deemed to affect the provisions of the Travancore Registration Act, 1087 (II of 1087).

Saving of provisions of Travancore Registration Act, 1087.

44. Nothing contained in the Travancore Companies Act IX of 1114 shall be taken to supersede or affect the rights, duties and privileges of the Administrator-General.

Companies Act not to affect Administrator-General.

PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI,
Legal Remembrancer to Government.

Annexure VI.

R. O. C. No. 400/42/Legis.

The following Bill, together with the Statement of Objects and Reasons, is published as ordered by the Dewan under Rule 31 of the Travancore Legislative Rules.

(By order)

HUZUR CUTCHERRY, Trivandrum, 1st May 1942.

G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI, *Chief Secretary to Government.*

A BILL TO AMEND THE TRAVANCORE PROVIDENT FUNDS ACT, 1116.

Preamble.

Whereas it is expedient to amend the Travancore Provident Funds Act, 1116, (IX of 1116) for a certain purpose; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

Short title, extent and commencement.

1. (i) This Act may be called the Travancore Provident Funds (Amendment) Act 111 .

(ii) It extends to the whole of Travancore; and

(iii) it shall come into force at once.

Amendment of Section 2, Act IX of 1116.

2. In clause (c) of Section 2 of the Travancore Provident Funds Act, 1116, (IX of 1116) for the words "and a deceased son's widow and child", the words "a deceased son's widow and child and a deceased daughter's child" shall be substituted.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS.

Under the definition of the word "dependent" as given in Section (2) (c), a son's widow and children are dependents, but not his daughter's children. As under the system of inheritance governing a large section of the people in the State the daughter's children share along with the son's children, it is found desirable that they should also be included among the class of dependents referred to in the Act. Hence the Bill.

S. KRISHNA PILLAI,
Legal Remembrancer.

Annexure VII.

R. O. C. No. 567/42/Legis.

The following Bill, together with the Statement of Objects and Reasons, is published as ordered by the Dewan under Rule 31 of the Travancore Legislative Rules.

(By order)

HUZUR CUTCHERRY, Trivandrum, 13th July 1942.

G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI, *Chief Secretary to Government.*

THE TRAVANCORE INSURANCE ACT (AMENDMENT) BILL.

Whereas it is expedient further to amend the Travancore Insurance Act, (XIX of 1114) as amended by Acts XV of 1115, VI of 1116 and IV of 1117 for certain purposes; It is hereby enacted as follows;—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Travancore Insurance (Amendment) Act 111—.

(2) It extends to the whole of Travancore.

(3) It shall come into force at once.

2. In part II of the Travancore Insurance Act, (XIX of 1114) as amended by Acts XV of 1115, VI of 1116 and IV of 1117 (hereinafter referred to as the said Act), after the heading "Provisions applicable to Insurers", the following section shall be inserted and shall be deemed always to have been inserted, namely:—

This Act not to apply to insurers ceasing to enter into new contracts before commencement of Act.

"2A. The provisions of this Act shall not apply to an insurer in relation to any class of his insurance business where such insurer has ceased, before the commencement of this Act, to enter into any new contracts of that class of business".

3. In the said Act, except in Sections 41, 43, 92, 102, 103, 104 and 105, for the words "rupees" and "rupee" wherever they occur, the words "British rupees" and "British rupee" shall respectively be substituted, and for the abbreviation "Rs." wherever it occurs, the abbreviations "Bh. Rs." shall be substituted.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS.

Some of the foreign insurers who were carrying on business in Travancore have ceased to carry on any new business after the Act came into operation. Many representations have been made to Government by such insurers and their policy holders that they should be exempted from the provisions of the Act. Government are satisfied that in public interests such exemption should be granted. From experience it is learnt that it would be more convenient if the word Rupee occurring in the Act is treated as British Rupee. This however does not apply to Sections 41, 43, 92, 102, 103, 104 and 105 which deal with penalties. Hence the bill.

PUTHUPALL S. KRISHNAI PILLAI,
Legal Remembrancer to Government.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE STANDING FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY THE 1ST JULY 1942.

The third meeting of the Standing Finance Committee of the Sri Chitra State Council and the Sri Mulam Assembly, constituted for 1117 M. E., was held at 12 noon on Wednesday the 1st July 1942 in the Chief Secretary's room, Public Offices. Rajyasevapravina G. Parameswaran Pillai, B. A., B. L., Chief Secretary to Government, presided under authorisation by the Dewan. The following members were present.

1. Sahib Bahadur T. Mahomed Ismail B. A., LL. B., Member, Sri Chitra State Council;
2. M. R. Ry. M. R. Narayana Pillai Avl., Barrister-at-law, Member, Sri Mulam Assembly:
3. M. R. Ry. Varkala K. Madhavan Avl., B. A., B. L., Member, Sri Mulam Assembly;
4. M. R. Ry. A. Lakshminarayana Ayyar Avl., B. A., Financial Secretary to Government; and
5. M. R. Ry. C. P. Gopala Panickar Avl., B. A., B. L., Secretary to Government. (*Convener*).

The Heads of Departments were also called in to assist in the deliberations of the Committee when the proposals relating to their departments were taken up for consideration.

REGISTRATION.

1. The Committee sanctioned the continuance of the temporary Sub-Registrars' Offices at Monkompu, Pantalam and Ranni, and of the Additional Temporary Sub-Registrars' Offices at Nedumangad, Kottarakara and Karunagapalli and the opening of four Sub-Registrars' Offices at Kunnattur, Pattanapuram (instead of at Kartikapalli as originally suggested) Chengannur and Todupuzha.

At the instance of the Director of Registration, the Committee sanctioned the entertainment of 12 temporary clerks on Rs. 20 each per mensem for a period of six months, instead of 12 copyists on Rs. 15 each for one year, allowing the discretion to the Director to employ these hands according to necessity. So a lump sum provision of Rs. 1,440 was sanctioned for the purpose under this head. The present proposal involves less expenditure than the earlier one.

The following proposals were considered and passed:

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES.

	Rs.
2. Confirmation of the temporary staff in the Office of the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies, consisting of one clerk on Rs. 40-70, 2 clerks on Rs. 20-25 and one clerk-typist on Rs. 20-25 ...	1,463

		Rs.
	PUBLIC HEALTH.	
3.	Statistician in the Public Health Department ...	440
4.	Continuance of the temporary clerk on Rs. 20 in the Statistical Section ...	220
5.	Continuance of the Assistant Health Educational Officers and their attenders ...	3,124
6.	Continuance of the peon of the Health Unit, Neyyattinkara ...	99
7.	Continuance of a minor conservancy at Azhagappapuram ...	627
8.	Continuance of the Vaccination campaign...	2,475
9.	Extension of the Maternity and Child Welfare service ...	5,200
10.	Constitution of a major conservancy at Perurkadai and of a minor conservancy at Villukuri ...	1,600
11.	Opening of Vaccination class ...	700
12.	Grant to Municipalities for mosquito control work ...	19,818
	AYURVEDA.	
13.	Grants to Ayurveda Medical institutions ...	930
14.	Opening of an Ayurveda Hospital at Neyyattinkara ...	6,500
15.	Confirmation of the temporary Steward clerk in the Ayurveda Hospital ...	231
16.	Confirmation of the temporary peon in the Ayurveda College ...	99
17.	Introduction of a revised syllabus of studies in the Ayurveda College ...	1,000
18.	Continuance of the scribe in the office of the Honorary Director, to assist the Vaidya Pandit ...	220
19.	Confirmation of the temporary Malayalam typist on Rs. 20-25 in the office of the Honorary Director of Ayurveda ...	220
	ARCHAEOLOGY.	
20.	Continuance of the Assistant for the preparation of an Epigraphical Lexicon ...	480
21.	Continuance of the Curator for the Museum of Antiquities, Padmanabhapuram Palace ...	440
	MUSEUM.	
22.	Revision of the scale of pay of the clerk attached to the Government Museum from Rs. 20-25 to Rs. 25-40 ...	

Rs.

BACKWARD COMMUNITIES.

23.	Continuance of the field staff, the Sri Chitra Harijan Hostel and amelioration work in the department for the uplift of backward communities ...	47,255

GOVERNMENT GARDENS.

24.	Continuance of the temporary staff sanctioned in connection with the separation of the Zoo from the Government Gardens ...	817
25.	Revision of the scale of pay of the Accountant, Government Gardens from Rs. 25-40 to Rs. 40 to 70 ...	24

LIGHTNING STROKES AT KOTTARAKARA.

26.	Investigation of the reasons for the recurrence of lightning strokes near the Kottarakara Anchal office ...	1,000

GAME DEPARTMENT.

27.	Appointment of one additional Game Guard on Rs. 14 ...	231

FINANCE DEPARTMENT.

28.	Continuance of the temporary staff in the Provident Fund Section ...	825
29.	Revision of the scale of pay of routine clerks in the Accountant General's Office from Rs. 15-20 to Rs. 20-25 ...	1,012
30.	Continuance of the temporary staff for the Treasury Department ...	891
31.	Minting of copper coins ...	1,00,000

REVENUE.

32.	Continuance of the temporary staff for the Survey and demarcation of the ryots roads in the taluks of Tiruvalla and Pattanamthitta ...	720
33.	Temporary staff for the preparation of a revised Settlement register for the Munro Island ..	456
34.	Survey and sub-division of lands in Survey No. 19 of the Pallivasal pakuthi ...	400
35.	Opening of a special higher survey class	

		Rs.
	for training the second batch of T. C. S. probationers and probationary Proverthicars recruited by the Public Service Commissioner ...	588
36.	Continuance of the temporary staff for the registry of minor circuits in the Nedumangad, Kottarakara, Kunnattur and Pathanapuram taluks ...	1,056
37.	Appointment of a clerk on Rs. 25 for Jenmikaram work in the Trivandrum Division Cutcherry ...	275
38.	Continuance of the Taluk Magistrate's Court, Bhoothapandy ...	165
39.	Continuance of the temporary staff for the survey of minor circuits ...	10,315
40.	Continuance of the additional staff of one clerk on Rs. 20-25 and one copyist on Rs. 15-18 in the Taluk Magistrate's Court, Mavelikara ...	385
41.	Temporary staff in the Devicolam and Peermade taluks for the registry of Cardamom and Puduval lands ...	1,192

The Committee adjourned at 1-30 P. M.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE STANDING FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY THE 2ND JULY 1942.

The fourth meeting of the Standing Finance Committee met at 3 P. M. on Thursday the 2nd July 1942, with the Chief Secretary presiding. All the members were present.

Part II of the Budget for 1118 was taken up and the following proposals were approved :—

ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT.

		Rs.
42.	Staff for the stock taking in the Electrical Department ...	1,394
43.	Continuance of the Technical Assistant in the Electrical Engineer's Office ...	825
44.	Continuance of the Commercial Engineer in the Electrical Engineer's Office ...	1,500
45.	Confirmation of the Sanitary peon at Chithirapuram ...	99
46.	Additional staff in the Telephone Engineer's Office in connection with the Trunk Telephone Scheme ...	270
47.	Continuance of the Special Land Acquisition Office ...	6,639
48.	Continuance of the staff for the Radio and Broadcasting scheme ...	7,270
49.	Appointment of a temporary accountant on Rs. 25 in the Electrical Engineer's Office ...	275
50.	Temporary staff for the preparation of the completion reports of the Pallivasal Hydro Electric Scheme ...	2,145
51.	Continuance of the staff for Punja distribution works ...	1,594
52.	Provision for Civil works relating to the Pallivasal Hydro Electric Scheme ...	10,000

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

53.	Appointment of one Accountant on Rs. 25 in the office of each Division Inspector of Schools ...	1,000
54.	Continuance of medical inspection of school children ...	12,000
55.	Allowance to the Manual Training Mechanic of the Training College ...	50
56.	Continuance of the temporary posts in the English High Schools for Boys ...	4,499

		Rs.
57.	Appointment of temporary instructors in Hindi and in Thiruvathirakali in the English High School for girls, Trivandrum, and provision of additional staff in connection with the bifurcation of the Girls' High School, Trivandrum ...	5,341

Mr. Mahomed Ismail asked why Arabic Munshis were not proposed for the English High School for Girls at Manakad while provision has been made for the appointment of Malayalam, Tamil and Sanskrit Pandits.

The Director of Public Instruction stated that no need was yet felt for Arabic Munshis there, but that he would look into the matter again and if there was any need he would provide for an Arabic Munshi.

58.	Continuance of the temporary teachers attached to the Training School, Quilon ...	660
59.	Appointment of temporary graduate teachers ...	14,600
60.	Provision for the continuance of temporary posts of teachers in Malayalam and Tamil High and Middle Schools for boys and temporary additional staff for Malayalam Middle Schools ...	6,325
61.	Provision for the continuance of the temporary staff in M. M. Schools for Girls ...	396
62.	Continuance of temporary teachers in Primary Schools and the appointment of 15 Bhagavathers who have passed from the Sri Swati Tirunal Academy of Music ...	2,475
63.	Continuance of the post of a teacher in the Fishery School at Karunagapalli ...	165
64.	Continuance of the temporary clerk for examination work and allowance to the Daffadar in the Director's Office ...	275
65.	Training of four graduate teachers in administrative and office work for appointment as Inspectors ...	1,500
66.	Appointment of one Mechanic Attender and one Office Attender and financial aid to schools for vocational and welfare work ...	1,174

Rs.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

67.	Continuance of the Itinerant Dispensary for the treatment of yaws ...	1,320
68.	Appointment of additional staff temporarily for the radium institute attached to the General Hospital, Trivandrum. ...	1,947
69.	Confirmation of the temporay staff for the General Hospital ...	1,166
70.	Continuance of the temporary staff in the District Hspital, Kottayam ...	1793
71.	Continuance of the temporary staff in the Tuberculosis Ward of the General Hospital, Trivandrum ...	424
72.	Continuance of the temporary dispensary at Kundara ...	1,073
73.	Continuance of the temporary dispensary at Vitura ...	1,183
74.	Continuance of the temporary dispensary at Kadakkal ...	1,496
75.	Appointment of temporary staff for the District Hospital, Mavelikara ...	314
76.	Continuance of the four temporary Sub-Assistant Surgeons doing anti-leprosy work ...	2,200
77.	Confirmation of the two temporary Warders attached to the Hospital for Mental Diseases at Oolampara ...	220
78.	Continuance of one temporary Additional Sub-Assistant Surgeon for the out-patient clinic in the Leper Colony, Noornad ...	715
79.	Appointment of a personal peon to one of the Surgeons ...	99
80.	Entertainment of permanent staff for the Tuberculosis Hospital, Nagercoil ...	9,075
81.	Temporary staff for the Victoria Hospital Quilon ...	847
82.	Continuance of the four Sub-Assistant Surgeons engaged in anti-leprosy survey in the State and their peons ...	4,752
83.	Land acquisition charges for the contagious diseases ward in the District Hospital, Alwaye ...	500
84.	Continuance of the temporary mechanic and Assistant attenders attached to the X ray department of the General Hospital ...	319

		Rs.
85.	Construction of flush out latrines in the Sachivottama Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar Shashtiabdapurti Memorial Ward attached to the District Hospital, Quilon ...	13,440
86.	Training of girls in nursing ...	7,000
87.	Reorganisation of the Medical Department ...	4,900
88.	Opening of a bi-weekly dispensary at Kalaketty ...	374
89.	Entertainment of additional staff of three Assistant Surgeons ...	3,300
90.	Purchase of furniture for the new outpatient block in the Ophthalmic Hospital, Trivandrum ...	2,000
91.	Opening of a temporary bi-weekly dispensary at Kallar ...	366

AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

92.	Additional staff in the office of the Veterinary Superintendent ...	220
93.	Continuance of the Dry Crops Farm in South Travancore ...	2,190
94.	Continuance of the Sugarcane sub-station, Thiruvalla ...	3,899
95.	Local allowance to the Technical Assistant in the Clinical Laboratory of the Veterinery Department ...	220

Mr. M. R. Narayana Pillai was of opinion that there was no meaning in granting local allowance for doing work of a highly specialised nature to an Inspector who had undergone post-graduate training. He thought it would be better to create a post on a higher scale for the purpose.

The Financial Secretary replied that the question of creating a special post would be considered.

		Rs.
96.	Continuance of the 3 stockmen in rural centres ...	960
97.	Appointment of temporary field men for Nephantis (A leaf roller pest) control work for a period of six months. ...	576
98.	Continuance of the Itinerant Veterinary Inspectors and their peons ...	1,914
99.	Continuance of the Agricultural School at Kottarakara ...	3,576
100.	Raising of the Veterinary Dispensary at Neyyattinkara into a Hospital ...	1,473
101.	Confirmation of the Technical Assistant and peon in the Clinical Laboratory of the Veterinary Department ...	649

		Rs.
102.	Expenditure in connection with Cattle shows ...	200
103.	Continuance of the Agricultural Marketing Officer and his staff ...	2,318
104.	Opening of a Veterinary Dispensary at Chavara ...	525
105.	Grant-in-aid to Veterinary institutions ...	899

CO-OPERATIVE DEPARTMENT.

106.	Continuance of the Statistical Inspector ...	440
107.	Continuance of the temporary clerk for work relating to co-operative recoveries from the pay of Government servants ..	275
108.	Appointment of a Malayalam Typist ...	220
109.	Continuance of the temporary Assistant Registrar ...	2,145
110.	Continuance of the temporary staff in the two Assistant Registrars' Offices ...	1,210
111	Continuance of the temporary staff for liquidation work ...	3,432
112.	Continuance of the temporary auditors of Co-operative Societies ...	1,752
113.	Grants to co-operative institutions ...	3,700
114.	Continuance of the temporary establishment in the office of the temporary Assistant Registrar, Mavelikara ...	1,298
115.	Grant to the Travancore Wholesale Co-operative Society and continuance of its temporary staff ...	1,803
116.	Re-organisation of the Co-operative Department ...	1,08,690

GOVERNMENT PRESS.

117.	Continuance of the temporary staff in the Reading section, Publication branch and Census work ...	5,966

REVENUE.

118.	Appointment of additional accountants in certain pakuthies for the collection of jenmikaram ...	6,216

MAGISTRACY.

119.	Establishment of five temporary Stationary First Class Magistrates' Courts. ...	6,000

FINANCE DEPARTMENT.

120.	Continuance of the temporary Auditor on Rs. 25 in the deposit section of the Accountant General's Office ...	275

The meeting adjourned at 4. 50 P. M.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE STANDING FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON FRIDAY THE 3RD JULY 1942

The fifth meeting of the Standing Finance Committee met at 2-30 P. M. on Friday the 3rd July 1942, with the Chief Secretary to Government in the Chair.

All the members were present.

Part II of the Budget for 1118 was taken up and the following proposals were approved :—

P. W. D

		Rs.
121.	Provision for the construction of a Tobacco Bankshall at Trivandrum ...	10,000
122.	Providing dustless surfacing to the M. S. road ...	46,500
123.	Closing of accounts relating to the construction of the Council Chamber, Trivandrum ...	2,200
124.	Continuance of the temporary staff for work connected with the re-organisation of the P. W. D. Workshops in co-ordination with the Faculty of Technology in the University of Travancore.	3,138
125.	Continuance of the temporary staff for the construction of the University buildings ...	956
126.	Provision for lift irrigation in Kunnatnad taluk ..	4,922
127.	Appointment of a Mechanical Inspector in the Workshops and Stores Division.	1,650
128.	Continuance of the temporary staff for the bridge across the Pamba river at Kozhencherry ...	5,582
129.	Continuance of the temporary Sub Division at Thuckalay ...	5,599
130.	Continuance of the temporary staff for the working of the Canals and Ferries Act ...	1,960
131.	Continuance of the temporary staff for the toy making and wood wool industry ...	2,519
132.	Grant of local allowance to the Personal Assistant to the Chief Engineer ...	550

133.	Revising the pay of the Superintendent, Chief Engineer's Office from Rs. 100-150 to Rs. 150-200 ...	110
134.	Continuance of the temporary staff for acquisition of lands in connection with irrigation works ...	3,192
135.	Provision for payment of T. A. to the members of the P. W. D. Advisory Committee ...	3,750
136.	Continuance of the staff for investigation for the construction of a dam across the Neyyar river ...	2,961
137.	Provision for Trivandrum Town Planning Scheme ...	1,00,000

WATER WORKS & DRAINAGE SCHEME.

138.	Provision for the Drainage Scheme and for the Willingdon Water Works, the Nagercoil Water Works, Water supply to Muttom, Bhoothapandy, Shencotta, etc. ...	4,45,180

PUBLIC SERVICE.

139.	Confirmation of the staff of the Public Service Department ...	29,061

Mr. M. R. Narayana Pillai suggested that before the department is made permanent, the question whether the duties of the Public Service Commissioner and his Secretary could not be discharged by any other head of department might be looked into. He also suggested that the Attender on Rs. 15-20 proposed to be disbanded might be retained.

The Public Service Commissioner said that he would consider the question of retaining the Attender.

INDUSTRIES.

140.	Continuance of the prospecting work in mica and graphite. ...	16,023
141.	Payment of an allowance to a clerk in the Director's Office for attending to the administration of the Petroleum Act ...	165
142.	Appointment of an additional clerk-typist temporarily in the Director's Office ...	220
143.	Continuance for a period of six months of the Demonstrator for the manufacture of refined jaggery ...	350
144.	Show room for exhibiting industrial machinery ...	6,000
145.	Continuance of the Sales Depot, Trivandrum ...	1,358

Mr. M. R. Narayana Pillai opposed this item and stated that the Sri Mulam Sashtyabdapoorthi Institute at Trivandrum was doing similar work in a better way and that therefore the Government Sales Depot could be abolished.

The Director of Industries stated that the former Sales Depot had been completely re-organised and that it was working on a better basis with its show room near the Mascot Hotel.

Mr. M. R. Narayana Pillai said that in that case it might be allowed to continue but that it must be removed to a central place in another six months' time.

		Rs.
146.	Revision of the scale of pay of the Head clerk in the office of the Director of Industries ...	825
147.	Appointment of a Draftsman in the Industrial Engineering Section of the Industries Department ...	275
	FOREST.	
148.	Continuance of the temporary staff for the disposal of kudivila claims on royal trees ..	6,200
149.	Revision of the scale of pay of the Office Assistant to the Conservator of Forests from Rs. 100-150 to Rs. 200-250.	955
150.	Continuance of the Working Plan Officer &c. ...	24,130
	INCOME TAX.	
151.	Continuance of the post of temporary additional Income Tax Collector and the temporary clerk in the Deputy Commissioner's Office ...	4,020
	CLAY REFINING FACTORY.	
152.	Capital allotment for the Ceramic Factory at Kundara ...	3,50,000
	GOVERNMENT PLEADERS.	
153.	Continuance of the 4 temporary Pleaders and their staff ...	16,544
154.	Continuance of seven temporary clerks in each of the Government Pleaders' Offices ...	1,540
	SECRETARIAT.	
155.	Continuance of the temporary staff of two scribes in the Huzur Central Records for sorting and listing the cadjan records received from the old Alleppey Commercial Agent's Office ...	440

		Rs.
156.	Continuance of the temporary staff in the Huzur Central Records ...	935
157.	Continuance of the clerk-typist in the Huzur Central Records ...	242
158.	Continuance of the temporary staff of 2 clerks engaged in the Jenmikaram Settlement work ...	1,200
159.	Continuance of the Mochee in the Huzur Central Records ...	121
	STORES PURCHASE COMMITTEE.	
160.	Continuance of the repair section in the office of the Stores Purchase Committee ...	3,000
161.	Raising the scale of pay of the Manager in the Stores Purchase Committee Office from Rs. 100-150 to Rs. 150-200 and of the Head clerk from Rs. 70 to Rs. 75-100 ...	275

Mr. M. R. Narayana Pillai stated that, without any reference to the person involved, the work of the Manager in the office had not increased from what it was during the past three or four years and that therefore there was no necessity to increase the salary.

Dr. H. Parameswaran explained that there was very heavy volume of work in the Stores Purchase Committee Office, more than in any other section of the Secretariat, and that the manager was discharging work of great importance and responsibility and he should therefore be kept above temptation. He therefore stated that it was very necessary to give him the status and pay of a Superintendent of the Secretariat.

Mr. Narayana Pillai however stated that the responsibility was the same as during the past few years and there was no justification to revise the salary.

The Committee adjourned at 4-30 P. M.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE STANDING FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY THE 6TH JULY 1942.

The sixth meeting of the Standing Finance Committee met at 12 noon on Monday the 6th July 1942. The Chief Secretary to Government presided.

All the members were present.

The following proposals relating to Part II of the Budget for 1118 were approved :—

JAILS.

		Rs.
162.	Continuance of the temporary additional staff in the Central Prison Department ...	6,182
163.	Allowances to the staff in the Committee for the revision of the Central Prison Rules (Supplementary demand for 1117.)	260
164.	Allowances to the staff in the Committee for the revision of the Central Prison Rules for 1118 ...	115

POLICE.

165.	Continuance of the temporary staff in the Police Department ...	1,93,834
166.	Allotment for the construction of a kitchen and latrines at Oolampara barracks (Supplementary demand for 1117.)	3,340
167.	Continuance of the additional Police staff on plague duty ...	2,657

EXCISE.

168.	Continuance of the temporary staff working in the Taluk Offices for the recovery of abkari arrears ...	1,485
169.	Additional allotment for the transport of salt (Supplementary demand for 1117)	9,300
170.	Additional grant for the fitting up of producer gas plants in the three motor vans belonging to the Excise Department (Supplementary demand for 1117)	2,000
171.	Continuance of the temporary staff in the Excise Department ...	8,836
172.	Continuance of the temporary staff in the Excise Commissioner's Office for the recovery of abkari arrears	

Rs

HIGH COURT.

173. Continuance during 1118 of the four temporary Sessions Judges, five temporary Munsiffs and their staff, as well as the temporary staff in the High Court and Panchayat Courts ... 61,197

TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT.

174. Additional allotment for 1117 for the cleaning of charcoal buses Supplementary demand for 1117 ... 1,000

175. Confirmation of the Transport Department

Mr. M. R. Narayana Pillai and Mr. Mahomed Ismail suggested that the Department might be allowed to continue as temporary for another year and that the question of making it permanent might be taken up next year. They stated that the working of the department was not profitable to Government.

After a long discussion the proposal was accepted by the Committee.

CENSUS.

176. Allotment for the continuance of the Census Department for a period of 4 1/2 months in 1118 ... 4,234

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

177. Confirmation of the Sri Swathi Thirunal Academy of Music ... 12,580

GAME DEPARTMENT.

178. Provision for the wire netting of the peacock run and construction of a godown for the ducks at Edapalayam ... 2,300

SECRETARIAT.

179. Publication of Vol. XII of the Acts and Proclamations of Travancore ... 7,000

STATIONERY DEPARTMENT.

180. Continuance of the temporary mechanic in the Stationery Department, for six months in 1118 ... 150

Part I of the Budget was then passed.

Mr. M. R. Narayana Pillai stated that members of the Legislature found difficulty for accommodation in Trivandrum when they had to attend the meetings of the Legislature or committees. The Shashtyabdapoorthi Memorial Satrom near the Railway Station was fully occupied

by visitors to this town. He requested that Government might be pleased to make suitable accommodation available to the members near the Legislative Chamber.

He also drew attention to the bad accommodation in the Ayurveda Hospital in Trivandrum.

The Chairman stated that the question of accommodation to the members will be looked into. In regard to the Ayurveda Hospital, he stated, the Dewan had inspected the place recently and he had desired that it should be located in a better place.

Mr. M. R. Narayana Pillai thanked the Chief Secretary and the other officials for the help they had rendered in the conduct of the proceedings of the Committee. The Chief Secretary thanked the members in return.

The Committee adjourned *sine die* at 2 P. M.

Trivandrum,
July 1942.

C. P. GOPALA PANICKER,
Convener.

40391

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